

Syrian diplomat killed in Brussels

BRUSSELS (AP) — A Syrian diplomat was shot and killed in front of his home Wednesday in Brussels, police reported. He was identified as First Secretary Antonios Hanna, also acting as official spokesman for the embassy. The shooting by an unidentified assailant occurred around 9:30 p.m. (1430 GMT), police said. Investigators told reporters that Mr. Hanna had been shot several times as he left his home on Avenue Montjoie in Uccle, a Brussels suburb. Witnesses told police he was shot by a lone man who fled the scene on foot. Mr. Hanna died instantly and efforts by paramedics to revive him were vain, the investigators said. Shortly after the killing, an anonymous phone call to Belgian news agency Belga claimed the "murder of a Syrian secret agent" on behalf of "Syrian Mujahideen." Another anonymous caller said "the chief of Syrian secret services has been executed." Belgian officials said Mr. Hanna, 38, had been appointed to the Brussels embassy four years ago. Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans expressed his condolences to the Syrian ambassador, saying the Belgian government was "shocked by the cowardly attack."

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Zia and Evren discuss Gulf war

ANKARA (R) — Pakistani President Zia ul-Haq discussed the Gulf war on Wednesday with Turkish President Kenan Evren but said afterwards they had nothing new to propose in the search for peace. Gen. Zia, on the second day of his six-day official visit to Turkey, told a news conference. "Unfortunately we have nothing more to offer than those ideas which already have been offered." On Tuesday night, the Pakistani leader told a banquet the Iraq-Iran war threatened the security of the whole region and that Turkey and Pakistan, both members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), should continue their efforts to end the war. Asked his views on Wednesday on the presence of the Soviet Union and the United States in the Gulf, Gen. Zia said "It is full of dynamism, it can explode."

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Moroccan leader lauds Jordanian efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — King Hassan II of Morocco has praised His Majesty King Hussein's endeavours towards convening a successful Arab summit in a bid to achieve Arab solidarity and confront dangers and challenges facing the Arab Nation. The Moroccan monarch, in a telephone conversation with King Hussein on Wednesday, expressed his willingness to contribute to efforts aimed at ensuring the success of the extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on Nov. 8. King Hassan wished His Majesty success in his efforts and endeavours.

King and Queen to visit Finland

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor will pay a state visit to Finland as of mid-October at the invitation from President Mauno Koivisto and Mrs. Koivisto, the Royal Court announced Wednesday. During the four-day visit, the King will hold talks with the Finnish president on bilateral cooperation and relations as well as regional and international issues of common interest.

Yugoslavia: No ties with Israel

DUBAI (R) — Yugoslavia's foreign minister said in an interview published Wednesday his country would consider resuming diplomatic ties with Israel only if the Jewish state grants Palestinians their right to self-determination. "If Israel makes a positive change in its policy towards the occupied Arab lands and returns to the Palestinians their rights then there is a chance to review our (bilateral) relations," Raif Dizdarevic told the United Arab Emirates Al Itihad newspaper. The minister, speaking from the United Nations, said he refused to discuss the issue of resuming ties in a meeting last week at the U.N. with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Israeli broadcasting off the air

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli radio and television went off the air on Wednesday when broadcast journalists began an indefinite strike over wages and work conditions. The blackout, which did not affect armed forces radio and educational television, came at the start of Israel's seven-day Sukkot festival, when special entertainment shows are broadcast. The broadcasters want a 20 per cent pay rise similar to an increase recently paid to print journalists, but management says the workers are bound by a public sector wage freeze imposed under the Israeli government's economic recovery programme.

Greece to get Soviet gas

ATHENS (AP) — Greece and the Soviet Union on Wednesday signed an agreement launching a \$2 billion project to supply Greek cities with Soviet natural gas. Industry Ministry officials said a 700-kilometre pipeline from Bulgaria would carry up to two billion cubic metres of natural gas annually to Greece from 1992. Soviet Foreign Trade Under-Secretary Benjamin Korolov said at the signature ceremony that Greece would be the 14th European country buying Soviet natural gas.

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Iranian gunboats raid Saudi tanker; Iraqis bomb radio station in west Iran

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iranian gunboats ambushed a Saudi Arabian tanker in the southern Gulf on Wednesday, and shipping executives predicted more such attacks as Tehran seeks revenge for heavy Iraqi air raids on its oil shipping industry.

Shipping sources said they could not substantiate reports, based on monitored radio messages, of a second attack against an unidentified container ship in the same area. Baghdad Radio said Iraqi warplanes bombed a radio station at Elam in western Iran, scoring "destructive hits." Iran Islamic Republic News Agency said one person was killed and others wounded. Reports circulated that Iran was massing its fleet of small gunboats off Kharg Island in the northern Gulf (See page 2), but U.S. military sources here said they could not confirm details of any such activity.

Qadhafi confident of success in his Gulf peace effort

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has expressed confidence that he can succeed in ending the Iran-Iraq war, the official Libyan news agency (JANA) reported on Wednesday. "The leader of the revolution voiced his deep regret at the latest escalation in the Gulf war and asserted that only the Iraqi and Iranian people will lose from the acts of violence," said the agency, monitored in Beirut. "The leader stressed his determination to end the Gulf war and made it clear that Libya had enough confidence it could succeed in this historic act and that the Iraqi and Iranian people could not bear this war anymore."

Colonel Qadhafi, speaking to a conference of Libya's revolutionary committees on Tuesday night, did not elaborate. He said last month Tehran had responded positively to a Libyan plan to end the war. Col. Qadhafi's comments on the Iran-Iraq war coincided with the visit to Libya of a senior Iranian official. The Iranian news agency IRNA said that Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati left for Libya on Wednesday for talks with senior Libyan officials.

JANA also said Col. Qadhafi hoped a ceasefire between Libya and Chad "would be the end of any confrontation between brothers and neighbours and the Muslims of the (Libyan) Jamahiriyah and Chad."

American Civil Liberties Union to defend PLO office case

By Clifford D. May
The New York Times
WASHINGTON — The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), anticipating intense and widespread opposition among its supporters, has decided to defend the right of an agent of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to run an information office here. "We're working on the details now," Ira Glasser, executive director of the ACLU, said of the decision, which has not been officially announced. "But we are going to represent him. We see this as clearly a free speech issue." On Sept. 16 the State Department notified Hassan Abdul Rahman, a United States citizen who heads the Palestine Information Office in Washington, that his status had been changed from foreign agent to head of a foreign mission. The State Department then sent Mr. Rahman a second letter ordering the mission

closed by Oct. 15. That move was interpreted by many as a manoeuvre aimed at heading off even stronger congressional action. Bills introduced in the house by Representative Jack F. Kemp, Republican of upstate New York, and Rep. Daniel A. Mica, Democrat of Florida, and in the Senate by Senator Charles R. Grassley, Republican of Iowa, and Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg, Democrat of New Jersey, would shut not only the PLO-financed information office in Washington but also the PLO mission to the United Nations in New York.

The bills have attracted several dozen co-sponsors, ranging from Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, on the right, to Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, on the left. "I'm afraid even the good guys on civil liberties are going to be against us on this one," said Mr. Glasser. He noted that the ACLU had provoked bipartisan

Rafsanjani warns of 'catastrophe' in Gulf

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran's Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani warned on Wednesday that the Western military build-up in the Gulf might lead to a "catastrophe." Iran's news agency IRNA said. In a meeting with the Belgian ambassador in Tehran, Victor Allard, the Iranian leader also criticised West European nations for following the United States in sending their fleets to the Gulf, reported IRNA, monitored in Nicosia. "If it had not been for our patience, the catastrophe might have already occurred," said Mr. Rafsanjani. He said Iran was doing all it could to prevent such a catastrophe, but its patience was running low because of "pressure by the Iranian people as well as the events," IRNA reported.

Belgium — like Britain, France, Italy and the Netherlands — has sent warships to the Gulf after the U.S. navy began escorting Kuwaiti-owned tankers in the waterway in July. Some 80 Western warships are in or en route to the Gulf region. IRNA said Mr. Allard stressed that Belgium was neutral in the Iran-Iraq war and asked that Tehran consider the Belgium action an unprovoked move.

Mr. Rafsanjani told Mr. Allard the Europeans had displayed a lack of independence from Washington by their actions.

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Soviet politburo member Viktor Nikonov met U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Wednesday and delivered a positive message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Asked if it dealt with a U.S.-Soviet summit, he said: "The final date will be determined at the time Secretary Shultz goes to Moscow."

Secretary of State George Shultz is scheduled to visit Moscow on Oct. 22 and 23. Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev are expected to meet in Washington before year-end. U.S. officials have said a likely time is in November. The United States and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to conclude a treaty to abolish intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF), and it is expected that Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev will sign the treaty at their summit.

On Tuesday, Mr. Gorbachev stressed the need for further steps towards disarmament after the signing of the INF agreement with the United States later this year on the elimination of some 2,000 medium-range missiles. Speaking at a dinner in Moscow on Tuesday for visiting Finnish President Mauno Koivisto, Mr. Gorbachev said he hoped the agreement would pave the way for greater improvement in the international climate. "We hope... we will be able to start the reduction of the strategic armed forces of the USSR and the United States by 50 per cent in conditions of strict observance

of Sharjah emirate, a makeshift convoy of 12 merchant vessels was sighted moving westwards, into the Gulf, flying the flags of five different nations. Five of the ships were Japanese. All Japanese vessels are now under orders to sail in convoys when in the Gulf.

Fear of mines prompted a new warning to ships in the vicinity of the attack on the Saudi vessel. A tanker captain reported two sightings of "unidentified floating objects" early on Wednesday off Dubai. Khor Dubai Radio broadcast their locations and said: "Vessels should keep a sharp lookout and report any sightings to this station." A radio operator heard an unidentified distress call after the 5 a.m. (0100 GMT) attack on the Saudi ship, but shipping sources said the tanker later cleared the Gulf and continued its journey towards the Red Sea port of Jeddah.

While the July resolution holds out the threat of sanctions in case of non-compliance, council members are still considering further diplomatic moves aimed at getting Iran to accept the resolution. The Christian Science Monitor reports: The Reagan administration's drive to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war has run into the slow pace of United Nations diplomacy in New York. However, Secretary of State George Shultz says he is confident that there will be enough votes to impose U.N. arms sanctions on Iran, if U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar does not soon make progress in getting Iran to agree to a ceasefire.

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political outrage in the past, such as when it represented American Nazis demanding the right to march in Skokie, Illinois, in 1977, and when it has defended Ku Klux Klan members seeking to demonstrate in black neighbourhoods. The common denominator in all these cases, Mr. Glasser said, is that they fall under the umbrella of the First Amendment. He contended that both the State Department's action and the pending legislation violated Mr. Rahman's constitutional right of free expression. "Rahman is legally registered as an agent of the PLO, under the Foreign Agent Registration Act," Mr. Glasser said. "He's a United States citizen who is not accused of having violated any laws. Basically, he's just running an information booth."

Mr. Glasser added that the silencing of an American who spoke on behalf of the PLO would include rebels in Nicaragua, Afghan rebels and anti-

Iraq urges imposition of sanctions on Iran

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz has called for the imposition of strict sanctions against Iran without delay. In a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mr. Aziz said that while the whole world affirmed the need to end the Gulf war through full implementation of the Security Council's July 20 ceasefire resolution, Iran continued "manoeuvring, committing crimes and shuffling the deck to resist the will of the international community."

Mr. Aziz, whose letter was circulated as a news release by Iraq's U.N. mission on Tuesday, said Iran on Monday "implemented its criminal plan to escalate the war on cities" by launching two surface-to-surface missiles against Baghdad. Calling on the council to draw "precise and correct conclusions" from Iran's behaviour, he said: "The first step is to begin without delay to impose strict sanctions against this criminal outlawed regime in accordance with the United Nations Charter."

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King cables congratulations to Mubarak

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday sent a telegram to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak congratulating him on his reelection for a second term in a nation-wide referendum. In the telegram the King expressed his pleasure and conveyed best wishes for President Mubarak and the Egyptian people. The King also said that the reelection of President Mubarak was a "clear sign of the will of the free Egyptian people and declaration of the Egyptian peoples' allegiance to their leader."

The King wished President Mubarak success in his mission for the next six years. On Tuesday King Hussein contacted President Mubarak over the phone to congratulate him on his reelection. The King expressed his delight over the result of the referendum and said it reflected the Egyptian people's confidence in the leadership of Mr. Mubarak. The reelection of the Egyptian leader was good news for all Arabs, the King said. Mr. Mubarak won a thumping 97 per cent "yes" vote in the



referendum. A high 88.5 per cent of the electorate turned out to cast their ballots on Monday to back Mr. Mubarak. Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Bader said on Monday that out of 12,445,022 valid votes cast, 12,086,327 or 97.12 per cent said "yes." Those who opposed a second term numbered 358,695, or 2.88 per cent. Mr. Bader said, AP adds: Iraqi President Saddam Hussein telephoned President Mubarak to congratulate him for winning a second six-year term. Iraqi Television reported



Wednesday. It said President Hussein made the call hours after the Egyptian government made public the result of the referendum held Tuesday. The television broadcast said President Hussein wished President Mubarak "success and the Egyptian people progress." Iraq maintains good relations with Egypt, although diplomatic ties are still cut in accordance with an Arab summit recommendation in 1978 after Egypt signed a treaty with Israel.

Shin Bet agent and 4 Arabs killed in Gaza gunbattle

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) — An Israeli security agent and four Palestinians were killed in a heavy gunbattle on Tuesday in the occupied Gaza Strip. According to an Israeli army statement, the gunbattle took place at 9.30 p.m. on Tuesday near Gaza City about two kilometres south of the entrance to the Gaza Strip. The fighting lasted only a few minutes.

The army statement said two of the Palestinians were among a group of prisoners who escaped from Gaza prison last May. The squad belonged to the Islamic Jihad (holy war), a fundamentalist group which Israeli authorities link to the Fatah movement. The army imposed a curfew on the Shezariya quarter, a suburb of Gaza City where the shootout took place, and on the area where the Palestinians allegedly had their hiding place, the army and the Itim newsagency reported. It also barred fishermen from leaving Gaza port. Israel's southern commander, General Yitzhak Mordechai, told reporters on Wednesday that one of the Palestinians opened fire with a Kalashnikov assault rifle

when Israeli soldiers stopped his car at the Shezariya road junction in Gaza City. "Soldiers immediately attacked the car and killed" three of the Arabs in that car, Gen. Mordechai said. Israeli soldiers spotted another car trying to flee the area and shot dead the driver when he tried to escape on foot. Military censors suppressed news of the incident for more than 10 hours and photographers were barred from the area.

Gen. Mordechai claimed Israel had smashed "one of the most dangerous and intricate gangs" in the Gaza Strip. An army spokesman said two of the dead men, Sami Mohammad Sheikh Khalil and Mohammad Abdallah Al Jamal, were among six prisoners who escaped from an Israeli prison in Gaza in May. Three of the escapees remain at large. He identified the dead Israeli agent as an employee of the Shin Bet secret service. The other two Palestinians were named as Fayed Hamad Qasim Arbeli and Ahmad Omer Khalas. AP photographer Anat Givon

later saw two Kalashnikov rifles, a U.S.-designed M-16 rifle, two Beretta pistols and about 25 magazines of Israeli-made Uzi submachine and Kalashnikov rifle bullets, at an army headquarters near Beersheba. Gen. Mordechai said the group may have been linked to the recent killings of two Israelis, taxi driver Galil Jarousi, shot to death on May 25, 1987 and army captain Ron Tal, killed on August 2, 1987.

According to Gen. Mordechai, Tuesday's incident began when a unit patrolling the Shezariya quarter spotted a car which aroused suspicion. One of the Israeli soldiers thought he spotted a passenger carrying a gun. The patrol ordered the occupants to stop but they tried to escape. Gen. Mordechai said. The Israeli soldiers alerted other military vehicles which joined the chase. They stopped the car at the Shezariya junction but as the soldiers approached the vehicle to investigate, the occupants inside opened fire, killing the Shin Bet man, Gen. Mordechai said. The officers shot back and killed all three men.

Reagan wants Bork to stay on in battle

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan held a surprise meeting Wednesday with embattled supreme court nominee Robert H. Bork at the White House and urged him to "stay in it," his spokesman said. Asked if Mr. Bork had asked that his name be withdrawn in the face of the Tuesday's negative vote by the Senate judiciary committee, Fitzwater said, "absolutely not."

PLO had specifically selected Americans as its victims and in the belief that the government was responsible for protecting Americans from "terrorism." He said he welcomed the State Department's action but did not intend to withdraw his bill in response. Ben Justesen, a State Department spokesman, said that the order to close the Palestine Information Office had been taken legally. He declined to comment on the decision's constitutionality. Mr. Glasser said that Mr. Rahman had never personally advocated the use of violence or terror but that, even if he had, "for us that would be irrelevant," adding, "We're defending the rights of free expression guaranteed by the First Amendment, not the content of the views expressed."

Mr. Glasser predicted that the issue "will most likely end up in litigation."

Shultz changes residence plans to placate Israelis

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli officials said Wednesday U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has cancelled plans to stay near Tel Aviv during his forthcoming visit. The change was apparently aimed at placating right-wing politicians who saw the move as a rejection of Israel's claim of sovereignty over Jerusalem. Mr. Shultz is scheduled to arrive in Israel Oct. 16 as part of a Middle East swing before his trip to Moscow later this month.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Tuesday Mr. Shultz would stay in Jerusalem during his three-day trip. But Israeli officials said they understood Mr. Shultz' initial plans were to base himself in the town of Herzliya north of Tel Aviv. Legislators from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc reacted angrily to the plans, which they said amounted to a symbolic protest against Israel's claim of Jerusalem as its "eternal and indivisible capital."

If the secretary takes this position in a visit here, imagine what position he would take toward Israel in peace talks," Likud caucus chairman Chaim Kaufman said Tuesday on an Israel Radio show. Mr. Kaufman said Wednesday he believed Mr. Shultz changed his plans when he realised what a political uproar they had caused in some Israeli circles. "Shultz is a smart man," Mr. Kaufman said in a telephone interview. "He realised that making a symbolic move at this time was not in the best interests of his

Iranian build up alarms U.S.; warns of imminent escalation

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. military forces in the Gulf have been alerted to a continuing buildup of Iranian gunboats around Kharg Island amid fears Iran may be planning to expand attacks on shipping and oilfields, according to defence officials.

The coast guard, meantime, plans to send a small number of patrol cutters to the Gulf to assist U.S. forces there, defence sources said Tuesday.

The officials, who demanded anonymity, said U.S. intelligence agencies "have been working overtime" trying to keep track of the boats at Kharg Island — one of Iran's main oil-loading ports — in the northern Gulf and to divine Iran's intentions.

Last weekend, Iran sent about four dozen small gunboats streaming westward across the Gulf from Kharg toward a Saudi Arabian offshore oilfield, according to the sources. The vessels reportedly turned back without mounting an attack after they were spotted by an AWACS radar plane and intercepted by Saudi Arabian jet fighters.

Saudi Arabia has denied that any confrontation occurred. But the Iranian naval activities were sufficiently unusual to prompt several

U.S. warships to break off from a convoy in the southern Gulf and steam northward, according to reporters aboard the command ship LaSalle.

"The Iranian ship count at Kharg is now exceptionally high," said one source. "We don't know what they're doing, but there is real concern that something is up. There are probably at least 80 small boats of various types there now."

"There is some debate as to whether the Iranians were just testing the Saudis for a response over the weekend," added a second official. "But whatever they were doing then, they're still massing in the area now."

"Our surveillance is now almost constant," added another source.

Meantime, defence sources said a "handful" of patrol cutters, small airplanes and helicopters would soon be sent to the Gulf in

what would be the coast guard's most distant deployment under Defence Department direction since the Vietnam war. The coast guard is a transportation department agency.

Chief Pentagon spokesman Fred Hoffman insisted "no final decisions have been made." The coast guard declined comment beyond acknowledging in a statement: "There has been a recent review of coast guard capabilities that have potential use in the current situation (in the Gulf)."

The defence sources said, however, the patrol vessels would be used to help guard large barges that have been leased to serve as floating bases for navy mine-sweeping boats.

The sources said the joint chiefs of staff had decided the use of coast guard vessels would free larger navy frigates to concentrate on searching for Iranian boats suspected of sowing mines in the Gulf.

The coast guard boats "will certainly not be used to escort tankers," said one official. "But they could help with other things."

Another source, noting that

two U.S. military helicopters have crashed in the Gulf in recent weeks during routine operations, said the coast guard boats and helicopters would be available for search-and-rescue duties in the event of future accidents, "again freeing up the navy ships."

The coast guard operates several different types of patrol craft, ranging from small boats to 300-foot (91-metre) ships. The sources said the coast guard would probably be sending some cutters measuring about 100 feet (30-metre) long to the Gulf.

All of the larger patrol cutters are armed, albeit lightly.

The coast guard was heavily involved in supporting the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam war, maintaining patrols along the South Vietnamese coastline. More recently, coast guard cutters were sent to the Island of Grenada for temporary maritime patrol duties following the U.S. invasion there in 1983.

Unlike the U.S. Navy frigates, destroyers and cruisers, the coast guard's patrol cutters are not considered combatant ships, and thus many of them include women among their crews.

'Roof for homeless Palestinians — please' UNRWA urgent appeal to warring Lebanese factions

By a reporter

VIENNA — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) urgently appealed Tuesday to warring factions in Lebanon to permit emergency housing repairs to camps in Beirut, where thousands of Palestinian refugees are homeless.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Giorgio Giacomelli said at a briefing session for diplomatic missions in Vienna that successive rounds of fighting had destroyed 65 per cent of Beirut's Bourj Al-Barajneh Camp and 85 per cent of Shatila Camp, which formerly housed some 17,000 refugees.

While the Amal (Lebanese Shia) movement surrounding the camps had allowed UNRWA to conduct humanitarian operations on behalf of the refugees so far, it

had been made clear by Amal that repair work on UNRWA premises and refugee housing would be permitted only after a reported agreement between Amal and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had gone into effect.

"I have not yet heard that this has happened," Mr. Giacomelli said. "Any linking of humanitarian assistance to the settlement of political controversy is not acceptable, above all for an agency whose very mandate and reason for existence is precisely to provide aid to the victims of a political problem, pending its solution," Mr. Giacomelli declared.

Life-saving operation
"Consequently I must earnestly appeal to all parties involved in this conflict to agree to the immediate start of the work neces-

sary to give a roof to homeless refugees. This has now become a life-saving operation."

Although many of the refugees are still displaced in the Beirut area or elsewhere, thousands remain in the battered Beirut camps.

UNRWA has been feeding all needy Palestine refugees in Lebanon under its emergency programme and has restored some health services. But it has not yet been able to gain access for repair work in the camps in Beirut.

"Unless building materials are allowed into the camps quickly, these refugees will be exposed to the winter rains and cold, and we will be facing death and disease on a large scale among the refugees," Mr. Giacomelli said.

He was addressing a routine twice-yearly information meeting on UNRWA's education, health and relief services for 2.2 million

registered Palestine refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Giacomelli told representatives of about 40 governments that UNRWA was improving its health services and upgrading the training courses offered to young Palestinian refugees. It was also developing techniques to help destitute refugees to become at least partly self-supporting.

While UNRWA's general financial situation had eased somewhat, thanks to increased voluntary contributions by governments and to prudent management, the agency's dilapidated buildings had become a problem. Mr. Giacomelli forecast a need for some \$50 million over the next four or five years to deal with critical construction needs.

Israel snubs Washington on U.S.-Saudi arms package

TEL AVIV (R) — Senior Israeli officials say Israel will not relent in its opposition to the sale of advanced U.S. weapons to Saudi Arabia, despite pleas from Washington.

But they said the proposed sale of a \$1.1 billion arms package including F-15 fighters and Maverick air-to-air missiles faced such overwhelming opposition in the U.S. Congress that Israel did not need to put up a damaging public fight.

"Why jump and raise hell when it will be defeated in the Senate anyway?" one official said.

Sixty-one of 100 senators and 235 of the 435 members of the House of Representatives have written to President Reagan urging him to drop the sale or face a confrontation with Congress.

The Reagan administration sees the deal as a major gesture of support for an Arab state that is helping U.S. naval operations in the Gulf.

The Israeli officials said Israel would continue to oppose on principle the sale of U.S. arms to any country which declared itself to be "at war" with the Jewish state.

The officials said U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz raised the issue with foreign minister Shimon Peres at the United Nations last week and was expected to broach it again when he visits Israel next week.

Japan to help Gulf shipping, states

By Eugene Moosa
Reuters

TOKYO — Japan announced measures to help shipping in the Gulf and nations in the region on Wednesday, but stopped short of direct involvement or financial aid to U.S. forces protecting its tankers.

The package, announced by chief cabinet secretary Masaharu Gotoda, also promised increased contributions to the upkeep of American forces in Japan, apparently to offset the cost of U.S. vessels patrolling the Gulf.

Mr. Gotoda said the Japanese government would provide an advanced ship tracking system in the Gulf to improve security for all vessels.

He did not give the cost of the British-designed Decca tracking system, which helps ships fix their positions accurately, or say how much Tokyo would contribute to U.S. forces in Japan.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone told reporters after the announcement: "This is the

utmost which would be supported by our people."

Japan has come under increased pressure from the United States to make some commitment toward security in the Gulf, through which it receives about 55 per cent of its crude oil.

The All Japan Seamen's Union has expressed concern that open payments by Japan to Washington to compensate for U.S. naval protection for Japanese ships would lead to retaliation from Iran.

Government officials have rejected suggestions that Japan should send mine-sweepers to the Gulf.

Nakasone said last month that Japan's peace constitution did not bar the dispatch of naval vessels to the Gulf.

Last month, Mr. Nakasone described as "only too true" foreign criticism about "Japan's free ride in the Gulf," and said "Japan will be isolated in the international community if it sits idle without making a proper contribution."

About 55 per cent of Japan's

oil imports come from the Gulf, and several Japanese tankers have come under attack recently in the 7-year-old war between Iran and Iraq. Japan has protested to Iran over some of the attacks.

Under Japan's war-renouncing constitution, the government has ruled out sending the self defense forces or mine-sweepers to the Gulf.

The official said Japan would consult with Gulf countries and other nations on where the radio system would be located, adding that the system would need 20 to 30 stations, possibly placed in several countries.

The ministry official said she understood one radio navigation station has been installed in Oman but is not yet operative.

It was unclear whether Japan would install and operate the system or whether that would be handled by others.

"We have to consult with the countries concerned, including the United States, on these matters immediately," she said.

Pahlavi years for Shah throne

BONN (R) — The exiled eldest son of the late Shah of Iran says he has supporters in Iran who would be able to overthrow the Islamic government within two to three days when the time was ripe, a West German magazine said on Wednesday.

"We are waiting for the right moment," Reza Cyrus Pahlavi, the 27-year-old son of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, said in an interview with the Munich-published magazine Bunte.

The interview was released ahead of Thursday's publication.

Pahlavi, who crowned himself Shah while living in exile and hopes to restore the monarchy in Iran, told Bunte he even has supporters among the men close to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Iran's Islamic leader.

"Reza Cyrus Pahlavi claims that the present government of Iran could be overthrown and the situation in the Gulf could be stabilised within 48 to 72 hours," Bunte said.

Iran has been at war with Iraq since 1980.

Pahlavi's father, the former Shah, left Iran in January, 1979 amid strikes and demonstrations against his rule, and died the following year.

Pahlavi told Bunte that recent developments in the Gulf war had destroyed the Khomeini government's credibility abroad.

Last month, the United States accused Iran of sowing mines in international waters in the Gulf.

"Now the Iranian regime has shown its real face. Just about everyone has drawn the conclusion that one can't negotiate with this government," Bunte quoted him as saying.

The magazine said Pahlavi remained convinced that there would be a successful "counter-revolution" against Khomeini.

"I consider myself to be the king of all Iranians," he said, according to Bunte.

Bourguiba clamps down on Islamic opposition

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — Islamic fundamentalism is gathering momentum in Tunisia, the most Westernised nation in the Arab World, challenging the rule of ailing 84-year-old President Habib Bourguiba.

Held back by a vast crackdown that culminated last week in death sentences against seven militants, fundamentalist sympathies still seethe under the surface, according to Tunisians and foreign diplomats.

"To eradicate the fundamentalist poison will be the last service that I render to Tunisia," Mr. Bourguiba, president-for-life, has vowed.

Some Tunisians and other observers believe Mr. Bourguiba will be forced either to cut back Tunisia's timid experiments in democratic rule, or to make concessions to a groundswell of religious fervor, spurred in part by the crackdown.

The relatively lenient verdict in the month-long trial of 90 fundamentalists accused of sedition and terrorism was widely regarded as bowing to pressure from France, the United States and moderate Arab Nations, which feared a backlash if dozens were sent to the gallows.

The prosecution had demanded death sentences for all 90 accused, some of them members of the outlawed Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI). Only two of the seven sentenced to death are in custody, and no date has been set for their execution. The other five are fugitives.

The Lebanon-based Islamic Jihad has threatened to kill Tunisian leaders should any death sentence be carried out.

Thirty years after the end of French colonial rule, the imprint of France is still visible everywhere in Tunisia, in Parisian-style cafes, newsstands selling foreign publications and bikini-clad girls

crowding the beaches.

Most Tunisians seem to cherish their liberal lifestyle, unusual in the Arab World. But observers say Mr. Bourguiba's advanced age, coupled with a stalled economy, create a fragile mix in which fundamentalism is a convenient outlet for dissent.

In the view of some Tunisians, Mr. Bourguiba's crackdown is aimed partly at the infighting among his possible successors at the end of his reign approaches.

For seven months, the government has conducted an unprecedented campaign against MTI, accusing it of trying to destabilise Tunisia's western-oriented government in collusion with Iran.

Tunisia broke diplomatic relations with Iran in March. In August, the government banned women from wearing the "chador" headscarf, associated with Iran's Islamic Republic and Islamic fundamentalism elsewhere, in government offices and at schools and universities.

All the known fundamentalist movements are outlawed, and people are reluctant to admit adherence. But some citizens ranging from manual workers to professionals say openly they believe religious fundamentalism should be accepted as a legitimate viewpoint.

They suggest that fundamentalist sympathies are widespread despite Mr. Bourguiba's 30-year effort to modernise and westernise his nation.

MTI, formed in 1981, wants a society guided exclusively by the Koran, the Muslim holy book. It is demanding official recognition as a political party.

In what was widely viewed as a new response to the fundamentalist challenge, Mr. Bourguiba on Friday replaced Prime Minister Rachid Sfar, a technocrat, naming Interior Minister Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to the post.

A military man long in command of all Tunisian police forces, Ben Ali was at the helm of the police crackdown on fundamentalists.

MTI has demonstrated its tenacity and its ability to disrupt. The group staged nearly weekly street demonstrations over the past year despite the crackdown and, through strikes and harassment, managed to disrupt Tunisian university classes one day out of three in the past academic year, officials said.

Although it publicly disowns violence, MTI was blamed by the government for the August resort hotel bombing which injured 12 European tourists.

An even more extremist movement, the outlawed Islamic Liberation Party, openly advocates terrorism to oust Mr. Bourguiba.

The government estimates hard-core MTI activists at 30,000 and says 1,270 of them have been arrested. Independent observers say there have been at least 2,000 arrests.

Fundamentalist activists live in hiding in Tunisia or in exile in western Europe and the Middle East, allegedly with Iranian support.

Some observers believe fundamentalism potentially has a larger following than any one of Tunisia's opposition parties. Only three opposition parties are legally allowed to function, and President Bourguiba's Destourian Socialist Party holds all 136 seats.

Defence lawyers and some observers at the trial said the government may eventually be forced to accommodate MTI. One source claimed to be personally involved in a mediation effort between the authorities and MTI.

"There are propositions from both sides. Both have set their conditions. We will see what happens," the sources said.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

18:45 Special Feature
18:30 Music
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
20:30 News Summary
21:00 Evening Show Contd.
21:05 News Summary
21:25 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Contd.
22:30 News Summary
23:00 Evening Show Contd.
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 News reports
Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 International
07:50 Special Report 07:45 Reflections 07:50
08:00 Classical Record Review 08:00 World
08:05 News 08:09 24 Hours News Summary
08:30 Poshies' Choice 08:45 The World
09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Time for
09:40 Verse 09:48 The Farming World 10:00
10:00 World News 10:09 24 Hours News
10:30 News 10:30 The Best of British
10:45 Network UK 11:00 World News
11:09 Reflections 11:15 Country Style
11:15 French varieties
11:30 News in Hebrew
11:45 Varieties
12:00 News in Arabic
12:30 Life's Most Embarrassing
12:40 Moments
12:50 Indelible Evidence
13:00 News in English
13:20 Feature film: "Murder in Rue
Morgue"

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Les Reves de Jeannot (Cartoon)
18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 L'aventure des plantes (documentary)
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Life's Most Embarrassing
20:40 Moments
21:30 Indelible Evidence
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Murder in Rue
Morgue"

RADIO JORDAN

888 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& parts on 88.80 KHz, SW
Tel. 77111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Country Music
11:30 Hitsville: The story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Now Music
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Discovering Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 30 Years of American Top
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A painting exhibition by Hassan Madanat at the Housing Bank Gallery (until Oct. 17).

* A painting exhibition by Youssef Humeiri at the British Council (until Oct. 11).

* An art exhibition on Jerusalem at the University of Jordan.

* A painting exhibition on the occasion of the "International Year of Shelter for the Homeless" at the Housing Bank Centre (until Oct. 12).

FEATURE FILM

* "High Sierra" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre .. Tel. 644771
British Council .. Tel. 641520
French Cultural Centre .. Tel. 637009
Goethe Institute .. Tel. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. Tel. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 639777
Hays Arts Centre .. Tel. 6671816
Hussein Youth City .. Tel. 6671816
Y.W.C.A. .. Tel. 641793
Amman Municipal Library .. Tel. 646251
Univ. of Jordan Library .. Tel. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum," Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Hays Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 671560.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a

(Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphian Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) .. Tel. 624590
Jabal Amman Church .. Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) .. Tel. 621541
Jabal Luweibeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) .. Tel. 601757
Rahel House Church .. Tel. 661757
Terrence Church (Roman Catholic) .. Tel. 621541
Jabal Luweibeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) .. Tel. 621541
Orthodox .. Tel. 621541
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) .. Tel. 625383
Armenian Catholic Church .. Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church .. Tel. 772521

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) .. Tel. 771751
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 676334
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) .. Tel. 812125
Reformed Church (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church)
Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605, Rev. Veli.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 5320-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)
10:15 Agaba (RJ)
10:15 Cairo (RJ)
10:15 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Jeddah (RJ)
10:50 Doha (RJ)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 London, Geneva (RJ)
11:05 Athens (RJ)
11:30 Rome (RJ)
11:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
11:40 Athens (RJ)
11:45 Rome (RJ)
11:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:00 Baghdad (IA)
12:00 Bucharest (RO)
12:25 Kuwait (LN)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
13:30 Beirut (MEA)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
14:35 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
14:40 Riyadh (SV)
14:40 Athens (RJ)
14:45 Rome (RJ)
14:55 Baghdad (RJ)
15:00 Paris (AF)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS

(Terminal 1)
08:00 Agaba (RJ)
11:45 Rome (RJ)
12:30 Athens (RJ)
13:00 Frankfurt, London (RJ)
13:15 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
14:00 Kuwait (RJ)
14:35 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
14:40 Riyadh (SV)
14:40 Athens (RJ)
14:45 Rome (RJ)
14:55 Baghdad (RJ)
15:00 Paris (AF)
15:00 Bangkok (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

07:00 Cairo, London (BA)
07:20 Frankfurt (LH)
08:40 Damascus, Paris (AF)
10:00 Baghdad (IA)
10:30 Bucharest (RO)
10:40 Tripoli (LN)
10:45 Cairo (MS)
11:30 Beirut (MEA)
14:45 Bahrain, Doha (GF)
15:30 Kuwait (KU)
16:30 Doha (RJ)
17:20 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
17:40 Riyadh (SV)
21:00 Sana'a (LH)
22:40 Baghdad (AF)

PRAYER TIMES

06:37 Fajr
06:57 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:25 Dhuhr
15:39 'Asr
18:10 Maghreb
19:29 'Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Wednesday rates
Local sell/buy rates in Jls
Belgian franc 167.1 / 169.2
Dutch guilder 56.3 / 57.1
French franc 26.1 / 26.4
Italian lire 224.1 / 238.7
Japanese yen (for 100) 224.6 / 228.3
Swiss franc 53.5 / 54.2
Swedish crown 224.6 / 228.3
U.K. sterling pound 50.8 / 50.9
U.S. dollar 343.4 / 347
W. German mark 187.3 / 190.4

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with scattered showers and westerly moderate winds. There will be a drop in temperature. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 14 / 22
Agaba 21 / 30
Deserts 15 / 25
Jordan Valley 20 / 32

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quseimat 707033
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57006
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630341
Blood Bank 776303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 622090-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Traffic police 639141
Electric Power Co. 643814, 643881
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 5333060

GENERAL

Jordan Television 7711119
Radio Jordan 7711119
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 662112
Police Information 661176
Telephone Information 77120
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Nabil Maridi 615338
Dr. Yashin Abdul Rahim 730702
Dr. Ahmad Othman 782384
Dr. Mahmud Awwad 741381
First pharmacy 669192
Fardous pharmacy 787336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nastrok pharmacy 624772
Al Salem pharmacy 626730

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 613813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 6442106
Akheh Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 624262
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 6641716
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Mushair Hospital 6672719
The Islamic, Abadi 66612757
Al-Hadi, Abadi 6641716
Italian, Al-Mahajreh 7710103
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126
Army, Marks 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155

TAXIS

Al Wajidi taxi 641533
Khaloud taxi 644888
Bassam taxi 811857
Abi taxi 621277
Hayan taxi 817411
Balasani taxi 854120
Bahrain taxi 77200
Jenzawi taxi 896743

IRBID:

Dr. Ali Shugair 246140
Anis pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:

Dr. Zyad Salim 626730
Palestine pharmacy 626730

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg
Apple (local) 300 / 250
Banana 350 / 300
Beans (Mushroom) 300 / 240
Beans 230 / 180
Cabbage 150 / 100
Cauliflower 200 / 160
Cucumbers 200 / 150
Dates 400 / 350
Eggplant (large) 80 / 40
Eggplant (small) 140 / 100
Figs 350 / 300
Garlic 600 / 500
Grapes (white) 350 / 300
Grapes (black) 350 / 280
Grapefruit 150 / 100
Guava 320 / 260
Lemon (green) 140 / 100
Lemon (yellow) 140 / 100
Mallow 80 / 40
Marrow 220 / 160
Olive 350 / 300
Onion (dry) 150 / 100
Onion (wet) 450 / 380
Oranges (Abu Surra) 250 / 200
Pepper (hot) 150 / 100
Pepper (sweet) 200 / 80
Potato 240 / 200
Pomegranates 350 / 300
Radish 140 / 100
Spinach 170 / 120
Squash 150 / 100
Sweetmelon 250 / 200
Tomatoes 180 / 120

Home news

Health team reports shortage of nurses

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is in need of an additional 844 nurses at present, and will be in need of many more from now until the year 2,000, according to the findings of a special Health Ministry committee charged with assessing Jordan's need for nurses.

The committee, which met Wednesday, said in a statement that it had worked out a plan for covering the national need for nurses and recommended that at least 370 nurses be turned out from the nursing schools and colleges every year until the year

2,000 — an increase from the present rate of 300 annually.

The committee based its decision on international studies which take into consideration the number of nurses and assistant nurses required for running the health services in the country, according to the statement.

It said that the committee members, at their Wednesday meeting, discussed the question of recruiting and training midwives and substituting foreign nurses with local nurses.

Jordan and Turkey seek balance in trade

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Industry, Trade, and Supply Rajai Muasher met on Wednesday with a Turkish delegation and discussed the implementation of a Jordanian-Turkish trade and economic protocol signed last November.

The delegation represents Turkey's side to the joint Jordanian-Turkish economic committee which opened meetings here Tuesday.

The Jordanian side to the talks is led by Mr. Mohammad Saqqaf, under-secretary of the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Supply. Most of the discussion during the meetings has centred on Jordan's phosphate exports to Turkey, and on exchanging expertise in the fertilizer and mining industries.

Under the terms of the protocol, both sides agreed to work towards balancing imports and exports, since the present balance of trade is in favour of Turkey. Under the renewed protocol, Turkey said it would purchase a minimum of 150,000 tonnes of Jordanian phosphate during 1987, and would increase its imports of Jordan's potash, pharmaceutical products, and drip irrigation equipment.

The talks were conducted by Turkish Minister of Trade and Commerce Cahit Aral, who said that he would encourage private Turkish companies and import agencies to increase their imports from Jordan. Following the talks here, the two sides are expected to sign the minutes of their deliberations.

Masri receives credentials from three new appointees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The newly-appointed Canadian ambassador to Jordan, Michael Bell, on Wednesday met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masri and presented him with his credentials. Mr. Bell succeeds Mr. Gary Harman who had been ambassador in Jordan since 1985.

The foreign minister also received on Wednesday a copy of the credentials of Mr. Datu Lila Haj Mohammad Qasem Daoud, the designate-ambassador to Jordan from the Sultanate of Brunei,

as well as the credentials of Dr. Ali Ahmad Attiga, resident representative of the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) in Jordan.

Dr. Attiga, a Libyan national, served in high-level positions in the Libyan government before joining the international civil service. He served with the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) as its secretary general from 1974 to September 1987.

W. German folklore troupe invites all to join march

AMMAN (J.T.) — Anyone interested in a short walk along with the sounds of traditional West German wind instruments and tamborines can do so by joining a march-with-music parade, an event which kicks off today, Thursday, from the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel (at 11 a.m.) and ends at the main entrance of the Greater Amman Municipality.

The festival march will be led by the West German folklore troupe "Die Isertaller Blasmusik". The German group is expected to hand over to Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh a letter of friendship and a golden key from the mayor of the West German city of Munich.

The West German troupe, which performed the same march last October, attracted a huge crowd of adults and school children, who joined in the march.

As part of the Kingdom's celebrations marking the Arab and International Child Day, Die Isertaller Blasmusik will hold a musical festival at the SOS children's village in Tabarbour on Saturday Oct. 10, 1987.

The Jordan Intercontinental Hotel has organised the festival, during which gifts and sweets will be distributed to the orphaned children being housed and cared

for at the SOS village.

The German troupe has held a number of musical festivals in Jordan since 1982, upon the request of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in cooperation with Royal Jordanian, in contribution to voluntary work in Jordan.

The West German folk troupe has also been taking part in the annual Oktoberfest which is held in West Germany, in general, and in the state of Bavaria, in particular. The festival celebrating the annual harvest involves the sale of food and drink, popular musical festivals, as well as folkloric performances. A sample of the West German troupe's performance skills will be presented at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel until Oct. 10.

According to the hotel's director-general, Jubrail Khawam, the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel is now hosting a tourist delegation from Singapore. The delegation's members, all senior tour organisers and press people, will familiarise themselves with the Kingdom's touristic and archaeological potentials to help market them in Singapore. The group's visit is part of the hotel's endeavours, in cooperation with Royal Jordanian, to boost the Kingdom's tourist industry, according to Mr. Khawam.

Reagan receives message

(Continued from page 1)

of the ABM treaty," Mr. Gorbachev said.

Mr. Gorbachev did not refer to the main stumbling block in future negotiations, Mr. Reagan's strategic arms initiative (SDI), which Moscow has said must be scrapped before there can be any deal on strategic missiles.

Foreign analysts said the omission was a further indication that Moscow is prepared to take a more flexible line on SDI, following advances in the same field by Soviet scientists.

Mr. Gorbachev went on to express hopes for progress on banning nuclear weapon testing and solving the problem of troop imbalances in Europe.

"Given the will, the balances and imbalances can be soon sorted out. We should be able to determine who has more of what and to start evening out levels," he said.

The Pentagon said Tuesday the Soviet Union had again rejected a suggestion that its defence minister travel to Washington for meetings with Defence Secretary

Caspar Weinberger.

Mr. Weinberger, hoping to break a deadlock over arrangements for such a session, has now suggested consultations with Soviet Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov be held in New York City next week. Defence Department spokesman Fred Hoffman added.

Hoffman said Mr. Weinberger made the suggestion in a letter to Mr. Yazov on Monday but no reply has been received.

In another field of superpower issues, Soviet officials are scheduled to visit a U.S. chemical weapons destruction facility next month as part of an effort to build confidence.

U.S. State Department spokesman Charles Redman, who announced on Tuesday the visit to the Tooele, Utah, plant would take place Nov. 19-20, noted that Moscow had refused a previous inspection tour in 1983.

He apparently sought to counter the publicity generated last weekend when the Soviet Union opened its top-secret chemical warfare centre at Shikhan to foreign disarmament negotiators,

Crown Prince urges housing plan based on social development

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said on Wednesday that the housing strategy in Jordan should, in the future, be based on the principle of promoting social development in the Kingdom.

Addressing a meeting at the Housing Corporation to discuss integrated policies on housing in Jordan, Prince Hassan said that the planners of these projects should take into consideration the districts where the housing will be set up and the population it will serve. The future housing projects should provide for different social, health and educational activities, as well as serving as homes. For this reason, careful planning is required to ensure a successful scheme, the Crown Prince said.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan leaves the Housing Corporation after, on Wednesday, addressing a conference on devising a housing strategy for Jordan (Petra photo)

He stressed that housing projects should be built in such a way that they have a balanced relationship with the different organisations and economic and social activities that originally exist. In addition, they should have basic infrastructure and services, and employ essentially local raw and primary material.

During the meeting, agreement was reached on holding a special symposium during which a plan will be created for a Jordanian housing strategy.

The meeting was attended by the president of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), Dr. Jawad Al Anani, the secretary-general of the Ministry of Planning, Dr. Ziyad Fariz, the director-general of the Housing Corporation, Mr. Shafiq Zawadeh, and the director of the Urban Development Department.

The meeting followed Tuesday's seminar, held at the RSS, to discuss means for reducing the cost of building, in harmony with the country's observation of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

The Housing Bank, which finances most housing projects in the country, said Tuesday that Jordan will need to build over 430,000 housing units during the coming two decades. Housing Bank Deputy General Manager Bassam Atari said in a lecture that nearly 85 per cent of the units, or about 360,000, will be needed for low-income families. Mr. Atari expects JD 2.9 billion to be invested in housing projects over the coming 20 years to meet the needs of the growing population.

Last month, a newly-formed national committee charged with organising activities and celebrations for the Arab Housing Day held several meetings to discuss developing an informational plan for housing that would involve various sectors. The plan would focus on the need to handle all housing issues by considering the human element, as well as financial and land matters.

The committee announced that several housing projects will be inaugurated in the country on Oct. 15, marking the Arab Housing Day.

Muasher outlines investment areas for Kuwaiti businessmen

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher conferred here Wednesday with a delegation of Kuwaiti investors and businessmen working for the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development (KFED).

The talks focused on projects in which Kuwaiti businessmen can participate, specifically cereal production, processing of fodder, and livestock breeding in southern Jordan. Also discussed were the prospects of building a tourist village at Dibbin and chalets on the beach of Aqaba with Kuwaiti investors' money.

The delegation later met with Ministry of Industry under secretary Mohammad Saqqaf to discuss cooperation between the KFED and Jordan. The Kuwaiti team had earlier visited Aqaba and met with Aqaba Region Authority Director Dureid Mahasneh, with whom they toured port installations and development projects.

The delegation's visit was recommended by a two-day conference held in Kuwait last April to promote investments in Jordan. The conference's final communiqué said that Kuwaiti investors and businessmen expressed desire to invest capital in Jordanian projects.

Dr. Muasher, who addressed the conference, outlined projects included in the 1986-1990 five-year development plan. He also explained incentives, privileges and exemptions offered to investors, as provided for by Jordanian law on encouraging investments.

Special WHO committee decides to assist Arabs living under occupation

BAGHDAD (Petra) — An Eastern Mediterranean committee formed by the World Health Organisation (WHO), which held meetings in Baghdad in the past week, decided on a number of measures to improve health conditions in the Arab region, according to Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, who led Jordan's delegation to the committee meetings.

He said that the committee has decided to offer health assistance to the Arab population under Israeli rule and to the Lebanese people. The committee also recommended that no antibiotic drugs be dispensed by pharmacies and drug stores without doctors' prescriptions. In addition, it suggested that Arab states should observe April 7 as a non-smoking day.

The minister said that Jordan is among the foremost countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region which has succeeded in nearly eradicating measles. The measles issue and combating diarrhoea and other children's diseases were among the subjects discussed by the committee members. Dr. Hamzeh said.

United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) Regional Director Richard Reid last week said that measles is almost eradicated in Jordan, Oman and Turkey. Mr. Reid, in earlier interviews with the Jordan Times, said that UNICEF does not feel that a massive nation-wide campaign is necessary in Jordan since the health services here are excellent and well organised.

Artist Yousef Hussein moves beyond stereotypes, paints bedouin with dignity

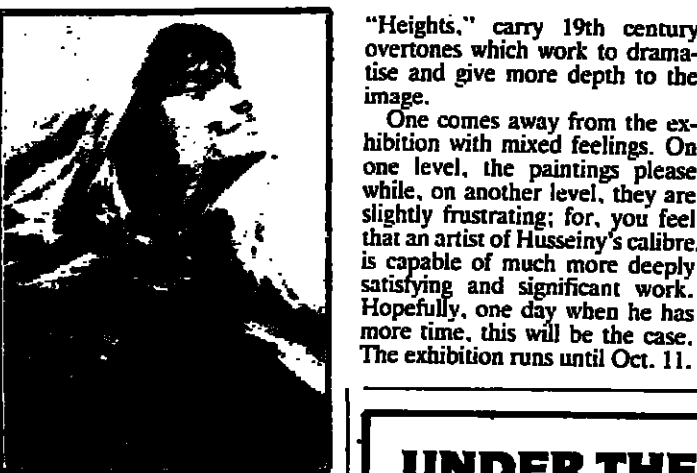
By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At the British Council this week is a small exhibition of the latest work of Jordanian artist Yousef Hussein. With over 15 years of painting experience and nine solo exhibitions to his credit, Hussein is now an established artist whose work is instantly recognisable.

Hussein adopted his distinctive style early in his career, and by the time of his exhibition at the Goethe Institute in November 1980, he had honed down this technique, which involved using a mixture of acrylic with gouache applied in large brushstrokes, to create dynamic, rushing abstracts. Painted in dark, transparent tones, their only feature was, as often as not, a tiny tree or a diminutive figure set off to one side.

Working full-time as a member of the Public Relations staff in the Design Section of the Royal Jordanian airline inevitably means that Hussein's output and artistic development is slow; so, his work, as seen in this present exhibition, especially in pieces like "Touches" and "Dunes," has altered little over the years.

There are, however, some changes and one of these is the greater incorporation of the figure. A talented draughtsman Hussein captures the features of the Jordanian bedouin with skill and perception. He manages to imbibe their weather-beaten faces with a dignity that does not lapse, as does the work of so many other artists when painting



"Ecstasy of the Soul"

this genre, into the romantic or the sentimental. In paintings such as "Portrait of a Bedouin Woman" and "Portrait and Nature," which owe much to the work of that great bedouin portraitist, Mohanna Durra, you feel that these are the real faces, not just stereotypes. The way their dislocated torsos hover insubstantially in the landscapes, however, is somewhat disturbing, and one feels Hussein might have made a better statement if he had decided to make the figure less definitive and more ghost-like, thus blending with the ethereal landscape or vice versa.

Hussein's landscapes have also become more defined — trees, mountains and the sea now filling the whole canvas instead of just a small part. Their rather sombre, brooding colours and deserted, windswept atmospheres, seen especially in pieces like,

Queen Noor patronises Arab Child Day events

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday patronised various activities in celebration of the Arab and International Child Day. Arab social development ministers agreed in Tunisia in 1983 to jointly celebrate the Arab and International Child Days on the first Monday of October, in recognition of the universal challenge to address the urgent needs and future aspirations of children throughout the world.

Queen Noor met at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation with participants from the Ministry of Health; the Ministry of Information; Yarmouk University's Department of Journalism and Mass Communications; the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); the Jordan Family Planning Association and USAID/Jordan in a workshop on the foundation's Health Communications Project.

This project, and today's workshop, were organised and developed by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, in cooperation with the Academy for Education Development in Washington, D.C. and with funding from USAID, to enhance participants' working knowledge and creative skills for designing and producing media programmes to generate a greater public awareness of health problems facing mother and child in Jordan.

Also at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Haj Hassan presented to the Queen the final results and recommendations of a comprehensive study on the Jordanian child. Undertaken by the Committee of

the Jordanian Child Study in 1984, this study — with funding from the Ministry of Social Development, the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and UNICEF — examined 5,300 Jordanian children between the ages of zero and six years and 2,300 mothers in areas related to:

- Pre-natal, physical and psychological development, as well as nutrition and child-rearing methods.
- The availability of pre-school education, information and cultural services for both the mother and the child.
- The findings of this study will be made available at a seminar hosted by the Ministry of Social Development next March.

Schools throughout Jordan are joining in community service-related activities today in celebration of the Arab and International Child Day. Queen Noor, accompanied by Minister of Education Thuqan Hindawi visited two preparatory girls' schools in Al Hashemi Al Shamali.

At the UNRWA school, the Queen helped the 6 to 15-year-old girls plant trees, and visited some of their community service activities, which included a puppet show, school improvement projects, and a community clean-up campaign. At the Hind Bint Othman School, the Queen joined the girls in their community development activities including garden work, mural paintings and a community clean-up and greening programme.

In Al Hashemi Al Shamali, Queen Noor opened a children's park which was built by the Amman Municipality, with special sports and play facilities for community's children. The opening ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Amman and Municipal Council members.

Finally, Queen Noor inaugurated the seminar on In-Service Training for Pre-School Teachers, sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Children at the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

This two-day seminar — involving over 100 participants from the Ministry of Education, Yarmouk University, the University of Jordan, the General Union of Voluntary Societies, and private nurseries and kindergarten teachers — will discuss the current status of nurseries and kindergartens in Jordan, review problems facing the development and enhancement of the country's pre-school education programmes, and explore ways to improve training of current and future teachers in this field.

The seminar's recommendations will be used to draft a work plan for training programmes to assist both public and private sector nurseries and kindergartens throughout the country.

Her Majesty Queen Noor greets participants at one of many events, marking Arab Child Day, which she attended on Wednesday (Petra photo)

At the UNRWA school, the Queen helped the 6 to 15-year-old girls plant trees, and visited some of their community service activities, which included a puppet show, school improvement projects, and a community clean-up campaign. At the Hind Bint Othman School, the Queen joined the girls in their community development activities including garden work, mural paintings and a community clean-up and greening programme.



Her Majesty Queen Noor greets participants at one of many events, marking Arab Child Day, which she attended on Wednesday (Petra photo)

RSS seminar stresses energy needs, promotion of rural women

AMMAN (J.T.) — A four-day seminar on energy in rural regions and rural women's energy needs ended here Wednesday with a call for all private and public organisations to give attention to the development of rural areas and rural women.

Mohammad Amira, chairman of the executive committee of the seminar, said that the participants recommended organising training courses at the national level to help promote the role of women in rural regions and meet their needs for energy used in domestic affairs and in agriculture.

The seminar urged all information media to assist in spreading awareness and education among women in rural districts, in addition to urging conservation in electricity consumption, Dr. Amira noted. He said that the participants called on United Nations regional organisations to help implement the recommendations of the seminar and to help find alternative sources of energy.

The seminar was organised by the Royal Scientific Society, in cooperation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

families. The seminar also urged all concerned organisations to help provide water and electricity on a regular basis to rural households and for irrigation, in a bid to save rural women the trouble of carrying water from far places, Dr. Amira noted.

He said that the participants

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Jordan Times

An independent Arabic political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Minimum wage required

MUCH commentary has been devoted to the subject of employment, or rather unemployment, in Jordan over the last few months. What has drawn special attention from Jordanians are the advertisements for employment published in daily newspapers here, some of which have reached the point of absurdity, and serve to underline the urgent need for state action to remedy the unemployment situation. A particularly distressing example of these advertisements is one published in the Arabic daily, *Al Ra'i*, in its Oct. 5 edition, where the Ministry of Labour and Social Development advertised a job opening at Abu Khalaf grocery store for a labourer to clean the shop. The conditions of employment, as mentioned in the advertisement, were so abhorrent to every civilised norm that one is compelled to refer to them, in order to drive home the slavery-like conditions under which some labourers are required to work. These conditions include a salary of a mere JD 40 per month and work hours from 6 a.m. till 10 p.m. And, to add insult to injury, the applicant was requested to submit certificates of experience. One might tolerate such a grossly unfair offer had it come directly from the proprietor, without the involvement of the government. By including the name of the ministry in an employment advertisement such as this, the government becomes an unwitting accessory to unjust treatment of employees, whether they are Jordanian nationals or otherwise. One would have thought that the bureaucracy would refrain from involvement in such practices, unless they meet the minimum standards that our treaty obligations require of us. This is without mentioning the prerequisites of fair play and decency.

Fortunately, such incidents bring to the fore the need to formulate additional laws in Jordan to safeguard labourers from slavery-like conditions. The first priority of such national legislation should be the incorporation of a "minimum wage" concept into our labour laws and regulations. It is clearly recognised that we are currently encountering an unemployment problem; we must draw attention to the need to protect labourers and employees from the abuses often associated with conditions of unemployment. In other words, this is the time when labourers need our protection from the whims of employers who, sometimes exploit economic difficulties to demand unfair requirements from workers. It will be recalled that the International Labour Organisation (ILO) was established in order to redress the unfair treatment of employees and to free them from the dictates of market circumstances controlled by the interaction of supply and demand. Jordan already has a commendable record in meeting the requirements of various international legislations on work conditions; and it is only natural that we expect our concerned authorities to rectify the existing aberrations in our present labour laws and regulations. May we then expect our newspapers to advertise only humane working conditions and our concerned authorities to refrain from consenting to such published injustice?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Remembering the October war

THE 14th anniversary of the October War passed by yesterday as the Arab World was involved in preparations for the coming summit meeting. But the occasion is a real cause of pride for all the Arab peoples since it reminds all of us of the true solidarity that prevailed during the war and the great courage and achievements of the Egyptian and Syrian armed forces. The October War of 1973 entails a very important lesson represented in the fact that the Arab Nation can by no means regain its rights and its lands without unity. The Arab countries which are making ready for a summit meeting in Amman should realise that all the hardships and the setbacks that were inflicted on the Arab Nation came as a result of the gaps that mar the unity of the Arab ranks and continue to cause differences and disputes within the Arab World. The October War was a true Arab victory made up by the Syrian and Egyptian armed forces, backed by Jordan, Iraq, Morocco and other countries. That backing and support represented the true face of solidarity without which no individual Arab state can achieve any success. Unless the enemies of the Arab World are confronted by a united Arab force, they will never recognise our rights in the usurped Arab homeland and will continue to hold on to the occupied parts of Arab territory.

Al Dustour: Jordanian-Iraqi coordination

KING HUSSEIN's visit to Baghdad and his meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Tuesday were within the framework of consultations and coordination between the political leaderships in Iraq and Jordan. The visit assumes added importance since it comes within the on-going contacts among Arab countries in preparation for the coming summit in Amman and as world nations continue efforts to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to end the Gulf conflict. Jordan is determined on preparing the ground for a successful summit by narrowing the gap separating Arab leaders and ending differences in their views for the sake of reaching common understanding. The Jordanian endeavour coincides with the current intensive efforts being made within the United Nations organisation for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 that would bring an end to the Gulf war and bring peace to the Arab region. The flurry of diplomatic activity follows a unanimous agreement by world nations on the need for implementing the resolution and on ending the seven-year-old war. Despite the world's call for peace, Iran has been escalating the conflict by launching missiles on Baghdad and shelling Basra.

Sawt Al Shaab: King visits Iraq

KING HUSSEIN's talks in Baghdad with President Saddam Hussein covered the on-going Gulf conflict and underlined the joint stand of the two countries vis-a-vis the Iranian aggression and its consequences on the security and peace of the Arab area. Jordan has been backing Iraq in its war with Iran and supporting its efforts to defend the Arab soil and at the same time to achieve peace in the Gulf region. Supporting Iraq and its people in the face of aggression is a pan-Arab responsibility and should be among the priorities of subjects that should be discussed at the coming summit meeting in Amman. King Hussein who has been visiting different Arab capitals and meeting with Arab leaders is paving the way for a successful summit which would see a true solidarity among Arab leaders in backing Iraq and saving the Arab Nation from further sufferings.

Israel marginalises Negev bedouins

By Irene Ertugrul

ON the outskirts of Beersheba, Israel's principal city in the Negev, stands Omer — the most luxurious Israeli suburb south of Tel Aviv. Within shouting distance of Omer's phalanx of villas and gardens and separated from it by a strip of pitted, rubble-strewn sand stretches a slew of tin and wooden sheds. Some sixty Bedouin families, evicted by the government from their ancestral lands, have lived in Abu Srihan since 1951. But almost four decades later their settlement has still not been provided with either a sewage system or electricity. Its only "amenity" is a single water spout.

For the 45,000 Bedouin living in scores of other Negev communities, which Israel also regards as "illegal," conditions are often worse. Though their settlements are sometimes adjacent to flourishing kibbutzim, founded on land confiscated from the Bedouin, any infrastructure — apart, perhaps, from a trickle of water — is deliberately withheld from them. Through such pressure, the government seeks to prod the Bedouin into moving to the five "concentration" townships, situated on a barren strip east of Beersheba.

Members of the Green Patrol (mostly Arabic-speaking Moroccan Jews who, armed, roam the desert in jeeps) serve as the instrument of government policy. Activated when Ariel Sharon was

minister of agriculture in the late 1970s, the patrol's mission is to clear the Negev of Bedouin with as little publicity as possible.

Tales of brutality by the Green Patrol are commonplace. Moving in while Bedouin men are away from their settlement, they have beaten up women who resist destruction of their homes — shacks, tents and even stone houses erected well before Israel became a state. Crops the Bedouin have grown — winter wheat and barley, as well as olive and fruit trees — are uprooted. Under the charge of "illegal grazing," herds of sheep and goats are often confiscated. These are sometimes sold for profit. More often, they are held in "quarantine" until the owner agrees to pay an extortionate fine. In January, \$55,000 in fines and \$1,300 in legal fees were demanded of two Bedouin families for the release of their 400 sheep.

The only advantage to Bedouin who move to a "concentration" town (buying a tiny plot and usually having to borrow money from a bank to finance a house) is that there their dwelling will be protected from demolition. But, in return for such minimal security, they are obliged to officially renounce any claim to ancestral lands.

Having migrated to the Negev in Byzantine times, the Bedouin were given free rein by a succession of rulers — Arabs, Ottoman

Turks and British mandate authorities — to divide territory according to firm patterns of tribal ownership. Nomadic pastoralism gradually began to be abandoned in favour of agricultural and, by 1931, a British census revealed 89.3 per cent of the Bedouin to be full-time farmers. But neither during Ottoman nor British times were surveys of the Negev (in contrast to other parts of Palestine) undertaken. Official documentation of ownership, therefore, remained scant.

In 1948, during the fighting that led to the establishment of Israel, four fifths of the 95,000 Bedouin in the Negev either fled or were expelled by Jewish forces into Jordan and Egypt. The new Israeli government moved most of the 11,000 Bedouin who remained in the Negev away from their often fertile farmlands and into a drought-prone reservation east of Beersheba. In Beersheba itself, Bedouin homes were bulldozed. The town's large mosque was converted into a museum; its smaller one became a cafe.

To this day, the Bedouin still lay claim to a third of the Negev; territory that they have used for generations. Falling back on whatever evidence they can muster (British aerial photographs and maps, as well as some deeds), they have filed over 3,000 land claims against the state of Israel. Though families have often had

to sell their herds to pay legal fees, these suits have remained stalled in the court system for decades.

Meanwhile, Israel, using legalistic devices familiar in the Galilee and now in the occupied territories, has proceeded to confiscate 90 per cent of the area the Bedouin contest. Territories near Gaza from which the Bedouin had been forcibly expelled in 1951 were seized on the basis of a 1953 law that permitted the state to claim any land that was not in the possession of its owner in 1952. To bypass a law that recognises ownership of land if a settlement does not move for ten years, the Green Patrol has charged into a camp site, killed a few dogs and frightened the settlement elder into moving his tent by a few hundred metres. This nullifies the accumulated years.

In 1979-80, when Israel moved its airfields and training grounds from the Sinai to the Negev following the Camp David agreement, a further huge area (82,000 dunams) of Bedouin land was requisitioned. The Bedouin were given one-tenth of the compensation that Jewish settlers in the Sinai received, and a law was passed forbidding Israeli courts from hearing any appeals from the Bedouin. Later, some of this land — instead of being used for military purposes — was passed on to various kibbutzim.

"We are willing to settle for half the territories we owned," says Nuri Al Uqbi, chairman of an association founded in 1979 to defend the Negev Bedouin. "But it is impossible to take all of our rights and still, as Israel says, want peace."

What the Bedouin seek is the opportunity to live in recognised agricultural settlements and for those to receive the same governmental support as do Jewish cooperative farms. This, the Israelis firmly refuse. "The future of the Negev," Israeli officials say, "lies in industry, not in agriculture." The only option offered the Bedouin is to move to a "concentration" town.

Some 20,000 have already done so — in the hope of at least improving their living conditions. But apart from the opportunity to build a "legal" dwelling, conditions in the townships are indeed grim. Founded fifteen years ago, Rahat — the largest of them, with a population of 16,000 — has still not even been provided with a sewage system.

Most resented by the Bedouin, however, is the fact that the townships are structured in a manner that only seems to aggravate their dispossession. In keeping with Israel's policy of severing Arab connection with the land, no area for agricultural purposes has been allotted in the

townships. Industry, an alternative, is also put beyond the Bedouin's reach. Government restrictions prohibit the establishment of any industry or business enterprise whatsoever in the townships. Residents are thus forced into offering themselves as landless, unskilled labourers to nearby Jewish towns and settlements.

Bedouin anger, particularly among the youth, is mounting. But, scattered and poorly schooled (almost 50 per cent of those born since 1948 when primary education became compulsory are, nevertheless, illiterate), putting forth an effective protest movement seems beyond their present condition. "Of course, we are angry," says Nuri Al Uqbi, "but we try to keep it under the surface because we are afraid to lose what little we have left."

Zaif Templer, a recent American immigrant and one of the handful of Israelis active in helping the Bedouin, is more explosive in his frustration. "South of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, there is no active, viable Jewish left. And the government knows it can step on the Bedouin sector and they won't organise to protest. Five thousand Bedouin on a hunger strike in front of the prime minister's office is just not possible. They lean back with the blows."

— Middle East International, London.

Mubarak cools political temperature but fails to ignite popular enthusiasm

By John Rogers
Reuter

CAIRO — After six years in charge of the largest Arab country and with another six in hand, President Hosni Mubarak is still trying to ignite the spark of enthusiasm among Egyptians.

"We like him and we respect him," said a veteran Cairo newspaperman. "But people see him as unexciting and dull."

Mubarak has cooled the political temperature in a volatile country that has seen one president assassinated and fought three wars since a 1952 revolution toppled the monarchy.

And it is this role, as a force for what the government-owned press dubs "security and stability," that won him a second six-year term, until 1993, following a referendum on Monday.

But the problem is apathy. Mubarak himself on Sunday urged voters above all to turn out, even if they voted against giving him a second term. The government machine has been trying to whip up pro-Mubarak fervour.

Chunky and stolid, Mubarak at 59 sometimes looks as though he has had enough of politics.

He won prominence as air force chief in the October 1973 Sinai battles with Israel which led to Egypt's recovery of the peninsula after a 1979 U.S.-brokered peace treaty.

Named vice-president by President Anwar Sadat, he was thrust into the top job when Muslim zealots in the army shot Sadat dead during an anniversary parade on October 6, 1981.

On the eve of the referendum, Mubarak hinted that he had considered bowing out after one term.

"I have, in recent days, passed the most difficult test, but in the end I had no choice but to agree to the will of the people," he said in a televised speech.

A reluctant politician, he never wears military uniform, stressing the civilian nature of Egypt's government rather than its military underpinning.

Mubarak's style of government is consensual and his trademark is caution.

After nearly three decades of dramatic leadership by the flamboyant Sadat and his predecessor Gamal Abdul Nasser, a towering figure in Third World politics of the 1950s and 1960s, he is lacklustre.

According to his supporters, this is what Egypt needs — serious, moderate concentration on the long-term economic and social goals.

"Hosni Mubarak's heart is in the right place," wrote leading newspaper columnist Ahmed Bashaeddin on Monday.

It's a verdict few would dispute, but an unexciting accolade.

Mubarak preaches an unattractive message — work harder,



Hosni Mubarak produce more, have fewer babies — as his recipe for Egypt's economic health.

He has held back from radical economic reforms and, backed by the United States and European Community countries, won International Monetary Fund (IMF) standby help for Egypt's debt-laden economy on exceptionally lenient terms.

Armed with last May's IMF deal, Egypt is now negotiating rescheduling deals with Western creditor governments.

"It amounts to a political rescheduling," said a Western diplomat.

The West, aware of Egypt's strategic Middle East role controlling the Suez Canal, does not want to force Mubarak into radical steps, such as sharply hiking prices of basic goods, that could spark unrest. He himself has vowed not to take action that would harm the masses.

Apart from being backed by Western governments, Mubarak has gradually improved ties with Moscow and with most Arab states which cut relations over Egypt's treaty with Israel.

Internally, he tolerates opposition by Muslim fundamentalists and leftists as well as established political parties, provided it remains verbal.

He draws the line at violence and subversion for political ends. Police, armed since 1981 with emergency powers of detention, sometimes use them.

During 1985-86, Mubarak saw Egypt through a series of crises, including the still-unresolved murders of two Israeli officials in Cairo, the hijack of the Achille Lauro cruise liner and a rebellion by police conscripts which the army was called in to crush.

Despite such pressures, Mubarak has administered what he calls "doses of democracy," sticking to what foreign diplomats see as a personal commitment.

The result, Egyptians say, is a more open society than Nasser or Sadat tolerated.

Backed by a huge majority in parliament for his National Democratic Party (NDP), Mubarak encourages a multi-party system and opposition newspapers sell in the streets alongside the government-owned national press.

Task force says U.S. should test and encourage Soviet changes

By Lawrence L. Knutson
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States and its Western allies should simultaneously test and encourage the domestic and foreign policy changes put in motion by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, a task force of scholars, corporate executives and former diplomats concludes.

Inaction by the Western alliance could mean abdicating the international agenda to the Soviets and passing up an opportunity to moderate Soviet power and end the arms race, the panel of experts said in a report made available Saturday.

A crucial test for Moscow will be its willingness to march words by deeds by speedily withdrawing Soviet troops from Afghanistan and permitting Afghans to install the government of their choice, the report said.

The United States, on the other hand, should be prepared to dismantle most restrictions on Soviet-American trade if the Kremlin shows solid progress on easing human rights abuses, the task force said.

The underlying conclusion of the report is: "New political thinking in the East requires new policy thinking in the West."

The report concludes that Gorbachev's agenda is too important to be ignored.

"Such an attitude would put the West perpetually on the defensive, leaving Gorbachev to define the foreign policy agenda himself," the task force concluded.

While the Soviet Union remains "a closed communist society," the report said Gorbachev has undertaken the most far-reaching revamping of the Soviet system in 50 years and has challenged a series of ingrained practices that have stood unchanged since the time of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

"From arms control to emigration, the Soviet Union has begun to make changes long advocated by the West," it said.

While it concluded that these changes are not merely cosmetic, it said far more has to be done and that the West should not only encourage the Soviets to move more rapidly, it should test their intentions.

One such key test, it said, is ending the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The West must make clear to

the Soviet leadership that continued Soviet occupation of Afghanistan poses strict limits to genuine collaboration ... and that a rapid Soviet withdrawal would be a forceful demonstration that the 'new political thinking' has specific policy implications," the task force said.

Western nations, in turn, should strive to provide international guarantees that Afghan soil not be used to jeopardise Soviet security interests, it said.

The Gorbachev policy of "glasnost," or openness, has a long way to go before arriving at anything resembling the level of freedom available in the West but has resulted in a degree of tolerance "unthinkable just three years ago," the report said.

"The West should insist that the Soviets live up to their human rights commitments, including freedom to emigrate," the report said.

And it added: "It is simply a fact of political life that progressive improvement in Soviet treatment of its own citizens would also make it easier for the U.S. government to press for most-favoured-nation trading status for the USSR."

In the field of arms control, the task force said that Soviet agreement in principle to reduce medium- and shorter-range nuclear-armed missiles in Europe to zero underscores the need to press for reductions in long-range strategic weapons and in conventional forces on the continent.

"Soviet willingness to re-examine the character of its conventional commitment in Central Europe would constitute a watershed in the East-West confrontation, affecting the justification for the Western nuclear posture,"

the task force said.

It proposed intensified talks between NATO and the Warsaw Pact "aimed at reducing conventional forces and eliminating offensive strike potentials, particularly those designed for a surprise attack," including armour and tanks.

The task force made these other conclusions and proposals:

— The United States should press for a rapid conclusion of talks in Geneva on a verifiable agreement to eliminate chemical weapons, a step it said would lead to increased confidence in Europe at a time of uneasiness over the phase-out of medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

— Expanded East-West trade should be encouraged "except in areas of strategically important high technology."

— The United States should not subsidise trade with the Soviet Union but neither should it discourage the extension of private credit at prevailing rates.

— The prospect of granting the Soviet Union observer status at international trading organisations and at the International Monetary Fund should be held out "to encourage greater openness and information about the Soviet economy."

The report was prepared over the last eight months by a task force of 38 Americans prominent in a variety of fields working under the auspices of the Institute for East-West Security Studies in New York City. It was funded in part with grants from the Ford and Carnegie foundations and will be presented formally later this week at a conference at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Laurel impeachment mooted as right shapes up in Philippines

By Phillip Melchior
Reuter

MANILA — Angry congressmen have suggested impeaching Salvador Laurel as the Philippines' rebellious vice-president shaped a right-wing alliance that could act as a focal point for the coup-happy military.

Four administration congressmen condemned Laurel in the house of representatives late on Monday and said their formal resolution could act as a basis for impeachment.

Such a dramatic indictment was seen as most unlikely by independent political analysts polled by Reuters.

As Laurel and former Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile moved this week to formalise their common opposition to President Corason Aquino, analysts said a unified right-wing may stimulate further attempts at a military takeover.

"This is a concerted attempt to put something in place that is there, ready and waiting, if a coup comes off," said one analyst, who asked not to be identified.

Few analysts believe that a right-wing alliance would actively promote a rebellion like that which almost toppled Aquino seven weeks ago.

"But the point is that both the right and the left now see an opportunity there which didn't exist two months ago," one Asian diplomat said.

"They are stung by the talk that Aquino is safe because there is no alternative to her and they are putting together an alternative that aims to be there if the opportunity arises."

Commentator Amando Doronila wrote in the Manila Chronicle: "Such an alliance ... may serve as an alternative government in case (Aquino) is forced to step down legally by the pressure of the current political crisis or is overthrown by a coup d'etat."

Aquino has made it clear to recent visitors that she has no intention of stepping down but another coup remains a real threat.

Colonel Gregorio Honasan, the fugitive officer who led the August 28 revolt, has hinted he will try again some time this month.

Although armed forces chief General Fidel Ramos says Honasan's support is now minimal, military analysts say much of the army is simply waiting to see which side appears likely to win the stand-off.

In the fluid world of Philippine politics, Laurel and Enrile — both of whom have unconcealed presidential ambitions of their own — have gone from being members of Aquino's cabinet to outright rivals.

While both men say they have not personally sat down together and deny a formal agreement has been reached, they have acknowledged talks between their aides.

Laurel has clout in the house of representatives, where about 50 of the 200 congressmen are linked to his party, although some have said they would stay with Aquino's loose coalition.

Enrile has influence and popularity with the military he nurtured during his 16 years as defence minister, first for the exiled Ferdinand Marcos and then for Aquino.

CORRECTION

In Lamis Andoni's article: The present dilemma of Arab Order: Any way out? (Jordan Times, Oct. 7), the writer names Dr. Masa Al Momani as co-author of the paper: The Arab Order: A historical perspective (1800-1987). This was in error; the paper was prepared by Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, assisted by Dr. Faisal Al Ruffi.

LETTERS

Moving AUB?

To the Editor:

A LOT of talk has been circulating in recent days concerning Israel's suggestion to have the American University of Beirut (AUB) transferred to Tel Aviv. The news astonished everybody, and people are wondering whether this is a fund raising or a propaganda campaign.

Why do we blame Israel and the Israelis for our social and political maladies at a time when the cure is within our reach? The most effective cure to all our maladies lies in our ability to fight ignorance on all fronts and achieve an ultimate and conclusive victory over it. This does not mean divorcing ourselves from world cultures and communications. It simply means arming ourselves with knowledge, information, and education.

Is it not true that we, the Arabs, whether in Lebanon or elsewhere, are directly responsible for the unenviable position we presently occupy? Is it not true that we, the Arabs, have opened our borders and our homes to intruders in sheepskin, and have appointed them overlords to shape the destiny of our nation in accordance with their tastes and preferences? These ungrateful intruders, their supporters and associates, have played havoc with our principles and objectives, and are presently sowing the seeds of dissension, contention, and discord amongst our ranks.

Is the AUB more precious and dear to the hearts and souls of the Arabs than Jerusalem? If Israel intends and the USA agrees to the transfer of the AUB to Tel Aviv, then let them have it with a bouquet of roses. Anyhow, the AUB did not exist at the time of the Arab renaissance.

George N. Saig

P.O. Box 996

Amman

Most women in survey bemoan love life

By James Barron

NEW YORK — A sampling of women's attitudes on their relationships with men by an author of best-selling books on sexuality has found that 84 per cent of women queried were "not satisfied emotionally" with their marriages or romantic involvements.

The sampling, by Shere Hite, also found that 83 per cent of respondents did not believe that most men understand the basic issues involved in making intimate relationships work.

The findings are contained in a 923-page book, "Women and Love," that is to be published Oct. 26. It is the third and final volume in a series begun by Mrs. Hite in 1976, when she published "The Hite Report: A Nationwide Study of Female Sexuality." Her second book, "The Hite Report on Male Sexuality," was published in 1981.

Many feminists hailed the earlier Hite reports as groundbreaking, but critics complained that

her research techniques did not result in accurate readings.

The third in the series is a compilation of 4,500 responses from women, 14 to 85 years old, who voluntarily agreed to answer a long questionnaire about their relationships. In this way it is similar to Mrs. Hite's previous works.

For "Women and Love," Mrs. Hite mailed out more than 100,000 questionnaires beginning in 1980. To guarantee anonymity, which she considered essential for obtaining frank responses, she sent the questionnaires to various groups around the country rather than to individuals.

These included, she said, church groups in 34 states, women's rights organisations in 32 states and counselling centres for women or families in 43 states.

Her results, she said in an interview, indicated that "women are frustrated enough to want to make fundamental changes."

"Women feel they have changed in relationships, but the men have not," she added.

According to Mrs. Hite, about 89 per cent of separated or divorced women who responded to the sampling said they were "lonelier" in their marriages than at any other time of their lives.

And, when asked to describe their favourite ways to "waste time" or do something fun, 92 per cent of the women mentioned activities they do alone.

Mrs. Hite said she was "shocked" by the married women's stories, and by what she called "the condescension with which they live" on an everyday basis. More than half of the women in the sampling reported that men "often negate or make fun of the feelings they express," putting them on the defensive.

In response to other questions in the sampling, 78 per cent of the women said the men in their relationships treated them as equals "only sporadically," and that they frequently had to fight

for their rights and for respect.

In addition, 76 per cent said they wanted to trust the man in their lives, but his behaviour made them wary. Yet many reported that when they sought reassurance from the man, they were put down for being "insecure."

"Women in this study see men as the group that should adapt," Mrs. Hite said.

The sampling found that 71 per cent of respondents who have been married or involved in relationships for more than two years felt they had been unable to produce significant changes by asking for them.

But while 17 per cent said they believed that change is impossible 21 per cent said they had changed noncommunicative relationships into equal, interactive relationships, often by going to counselling sessions with the man.

"This is the way men are," many said — The New York Times.

Chileans turn desert into farmland 'drop by drop'

By Eduardo Gallardo
The Associated Press

PICA, Chile — Literally drop by drop, an experimental irrigation technique is turning the world's driest desert into emerald-green farmland, producing grapefruit the size of bowling balls and a wide variety of other crops.

Agricultural experts say the government-financed project has an enormous potential to create jobs and bring much-needed export earnings to this indebted nation.

The centre of the project is Esmeralda, a 2,500-acre experimental farm near the town of Pica in the heart of the Atacama desert, 1,800 kilometres north of Santiago, the Chilean capital.

Esmeralda is producing a variety of fruits and vegetables on a commercial scale, agronomist Jorge Olave, who has managed the farm for six years, said in an interview.

Researchers at the farm have conquered the rainless climate through development of a technique known as "drip irrigation," Olave said.

"We use the little underground water available, and take it through plastic hoses to each tree or plant," he said.

A tour of the farm revealed a network of black plastic hoses covering the sandy ground, taking the water to every plant and tree. Irrigation is done at fixed hours, with two small drippers installed next to each plant, Olave said.

The technique has been dubbed in Spanish *gota a gota* — drop by drop.

It requires a little more water than in conventional agricultural zones, Olave said, "but yielding is far superior here, partly thanks to more intense sun during longer hours in the day."

For example, each grapefruit tree produces about 300 kilograms, and we can plant up to

300 trees per hectare."

He showed huge grapefruits produced in the farm, weighing up to 600 grammes.

Tomatoes are planted at an average of 50,000 plants per hectare with a yielding of 100 tonnes per hectare, almost twice as much as in the traditional tomato-producing zones in central Chile, he said.

The Esmeralda plantations also displayed oranges, mangoes, lemons, asparagus, apples, peaches, and avocados. Olave said other species have also been successfully tested, including kiwis, pears, watermelon, peppers and artichokes, and commercial production will start soon.

"The main thing is that we have proved that this can be done almost everywhere in the desert," Olave said. "In fact, the system is already successfully working at a number of small farms in this area."

A few miles away, the Matilla farm emerges as an isolated green spot in the middle of the grey desert.

Olave said around 150,000 acres in the desert have already been identified as suitable for transformation into high-yielding agricultural land. But the total area is "substantially larger," he said.

Hugo Rossi, a Santiago-based agronomist working on the project, said the programme "is definitely considered to have an enormous economic potential, capable of importance in terms of production, jobs and investment."

Another advantage, he said, is that weather conditions in the area allow production of a number of species, especially tropical fruits, which cannot be cultivated in other parts of the country.

Temperatures in the area during the day average 35 degrees Celsius during the day. By night, they fall to zero Celsius.

Randa Hagibis

Whistle in the dark

THE BOOKLET "Your Guide to Amman" includes names of foreign correspondents in Amman and their office, home telephone numbers.

As one of them, I often put up with nasty phone calls from people who have no interest whatsoever with press matters. And I know I am not the only one. My female colleagues share this misfortune.

I always welcome telephone calls from the readers who want to discuss different matters. This is an absolutely different matter. But then, there are the other telephone calls from those who just doing it for fun. And still I have learned to live with it: but not for long. The calls started coming regularly between 3:30 and 5:00 a.m. The situation became unbearable. I tried several ways to stop the calls, but none of them worked. Until one day, when I read in a magazine about some tips given to American women who suffer from nasty phone calls. One tactic prescribes blowing a whistle in the phone, right in the ear of the troublesome caller. The noise is so annoying, it seems, that the person will think twice before risking to hear the whistle another time.

And this is what I did, a few days ago, at 4:00 a.m., when my secret caller, phoned. Since then, our nights at home are peaceful. So, if you are troubled by mysterious callers, just keep a whistle handy.

Italians say minis are here to stay

By Daniela Petroff
The Associated Press

MILAN, Italy — There's no skirting the issue. The mini is firmly established on the Milan runway.

Only a year ago, the Italian ready-to-wear designers playfully revived the miniskirt in an effort to lighten their staid tailored collections and make them more competitive with their frivolous French cousins.

To their surprise, the new look won rave reviews and the French immediately retaliated by yanking up their own hemlines.

In March, the battle continued with each side of the Alps claiming the record for the shortest mini for the winter of 1977-78. Versace in Milan and Ungaro in Paris.

Relegated for almost two decades to the fashion attic, the mini suddenly has reappeared on

city streets with a boldness unknown to its Carnaby Street forerunner. Once reserved for the young and beautiful, the mini has been claimed by all regardless of age or configuration.

The halls of the Milan trade fair where the spring-summer 1988 Italian ready-to-wear collections got under way Sunday, are a microcosm of the world outside.

Black leather miniskirts, super-short miniskirt-dresses, and chic plaid suits with blazer jackets almost longer than the matching skirt are the in look among fashion editors and buyers attending the shows.

"If you are over 25, you should not be allowed to buy one," said Paola Pisa, fashion editor for a Rome daily newspaper. "You can have your face lifted, your hips tapered, but they haven't invented a cure for aging knees. Knees are the giveaway."

In any case, the Italians know when they are on to a good thing and the top ready-to-wear designers are proposing even shorter, more daring hemlines for next year's warmer weather.

Krizia, who never shies from a daring trend — back in the early 1980s at the start of shoulder-padding, her box-shoulders could out-tackle any college football — presented her all-skirt collection Sunday with the longest outfit at least four inches above the knee.

The overall look is relaxed and youthful, safari style by day and birthday party demure by night with ruffled petticoat dresses in candid white or sweet floral prints.

For the all-nighters, Krizia offers shiny navy blue organza miniskirts barely reaching below the thigh or polka-dotted navy halter mini dresses.

In keeping with her Lolita birthday girl, Krizia limits her

accessories to big round plastic button earrings, short gloves and wide belts with the word "girls" printed on gaily coloured leather.

In general, Krizia let the clothes speak for themselves, keeping shades down to beige and gray by day, navy and white by night. Heels were on the low side, a departure from last season's Krizia mini look, when spike heels accentuated the distance from floor to hemline.

Later Sunday, the Michelangelo of Italian design, Gianfranco Ferré, who sculpts clothes rather than cutting them, presented his version of the summer mini, a super short skirt — at times so short it doesn't quite cover the buttocks.

This peekaboo mini in black patent leather stamped to look like crocodile skin served a double purpose: It can be a conversation piece as well as a water-resistant — if not bathing suit.

Brazil's popular anti-populist

There is a refreshing whiff of change in Brazil's political circles as an unconventional rising star makes himself and his policies known. Ivo Damasceno compiles a profile.

RIO DE JANEIRO — Can a man who unashamedly wears snappy blue blazers and Dior ties be a serious presidential candidate in a country where every millionaire normally strips to shirtless for the hustings?

This is a big talking point when Sao Paulo's political dinner parties switch the spotlight onto the city's latest rising star — Guilherme Afif Domingos.

Nobody believes Mr. Afif will put himself forward for the next presidential race to succeed President Jose Sarney, either next year or 1993, the city's mayors say. His first target, but the 43-year-old deputy has a refreshing whiff of change with his expensive after shave.

education and health programmes among themselves rather than keep them as a state responsibility.

"The doctrine of statism that has dominated this country since 1930 has shown itself absolutely incapable of resolving social problems," he says. "It simply improves the conditions of those who manage the state at the expense of the taxpayer."

But he also insists that his philosophy of "social liberalism" is not just carefully camouflaged laissez-faire. Free and local bargaining between worker and employer, he claims, would produce

a more genuinely reformist system in which the cake would be cut by those who produce it without the cream being scraped off by parasites.

President Jose Sarney's populist rhetoric is no different from that of the left-leaning President Alan Garcia of Peru, he claims. "Populism is Brazil's tragedy, and with no real political parties we only have institutions inherited from colonial days — the state, the armed forces and the church."

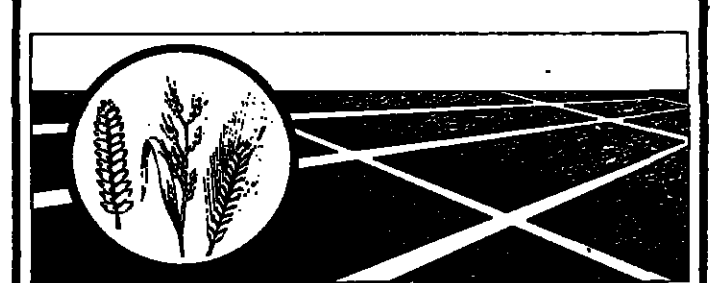
Mr. Afif points out that world leaders from Thatcher to Gorbachev, Gonzales to Cavaco Silva in Portugal, are all surfing on the wave of "less government" while Brazil is drowning under inefficient or corrupt bureaucracy.

Essentially cautious, Brazilians

like the concept of modernity but actually fear change. Furthermore, conservative vested interests, for whom Mr. Afif's ideas are not only subversive but likely to be ruinous, are deeply embedded. As the country wallows in stagnation, the antique nationalism of both socialist left and conservative right is looking less and less adequate to tackle issues.

The fact that Mr. Afif's dream combines free enterprise, free unionism and an attack on the suffocating state could yet gain mass appeal in places such as Sao Paulo, where capital and labour are strong and organised. It will be less appealing, however, in the poor north-east, where only a government job provides security and status — Financial Times feature.

MORE LAND FOR CROPS



As the world battles to feed its ever-growing population, new land continuously must be opened up for agriculture. Although irrigation can have drawbacks — it may not always be cost-effective, and over-irrigation can result in excess salinity — it is recognised as the single most effective way to increase crop yields. In 1970 the world had an estimated 188.5 million hectares under irrigation. By 1994 the figure is expected to be 257.5 million.

| | LAND UNDER IRRIGATION | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|
| | 1970 | 1981 | 1994 |
| South Asia | 45.0 | 56.8 | 69.9 |
| Asian centrally planned economies | 39.7 | 47.9 | 54.3 |
| North America | 18.4 | 21.1 | 26.3 |
| USSR | 11.1 | 18.0 | 24.7 |
| North Africa/Middle East | 16.0 | 18.3 | 20.6 |
| Latin America | 10.2 | 14.4 | 18.4 |
| East Asia | 12.6 | 15.4 | 17.0 |
| European Community | 4.7 | 6.1 | 8.6 |
| Eastern Europe | 2.7 | 4.7 | 6.0 |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 3.4 | 4.5 | 5.2 |
| Non-EC Western Europe | 3.1 | 3.9 | 4.6 |
| Oceania | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.9 |

September 1987 Source: World Resources 1988 © Compass News Features, Luxembourg

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World Cup Cricket begins today

Pakistan favourites against Sri Lanka in opening of 8-nation championships

By Qamar Ahmad
Reuter

HYDERABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan start firm favourites against Sri Lanka in Thursday's opening match of the World Cup Cricket tournament, held amid tight security in Hyderabad.

A sell-out crowd of 15,000 should see plenty of runs on a lush green wicket, according to groundsman Abdul Aziz, though there are some dare patches on one side of the outfield.

Pakistan have won 13 of their 17 one-day internationals against Sri Lanka and Imran Khan's team are confident of adding to the total at Hyderabad's Niaz Stadium.

They will be looking to exploit Sri Lanka's main weakness, a lack of bowling power. Asantha de Mel, the most successful Sri Lankan bowler in the 1983 World Cup, is not as sharp as four years ago.

On the batting front, the Sri Lankans will lean heavily, as often before, on hard-hitting captain Duleep Mendis, one of only five men in the eight-nation tournament to have played in all four world cups.

Mendis warmed up on Monday by hitting 80 from 89 balls as he steered his team to victory over a Pakistani invitation XI in a practice match. Young opener Brendon Kuruppu made 67.

But Mendis will have been alarmed by an initial batting slump which saw Sri Lanka struggling at 20 for three.

Pakistan, one of the favourites to reach the Nov. 8 final, have the stronger line-up on paper and a much better record in the competition. In Imran, Wasim Akram and Salim Jaffer they boast a formidable peace attack.

But Imran will be well aware that Sri Lanka are capable of surprises. They beat India by 47 runs in the 1979 tournament and a strong New Zealand side by three wickets four years later.

The match, the first of 27 in Pakistan and India, will be attended by Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo after he inaugurates improvements to the stadium.

Hyderabad was bubbling with cricket fever and local authorities, aware of its history of ethnic rioting, were taking no chances with security.

Two thousand extra police have been drafted into the city, the biggest in the southern province of Sind after Karachi, and

security was tight around the stadium itself.

"Cricket for Peace" is the official motto for the World Cup tournament.

On the eve of the fixture, first in the eight-nation cup, the entire area around the stadium had been cordoned off by police, plain-clothes officers and paramilitary security units.

Prime Minister Junejo is due to be guest of honour at the match, formally opening a new \$200,000 pavilion for V.I.P.s and the players. Police said they would not allow into the ground flags, banners, firecrackers, bottles, glasses or other objects which could be used as missiles.

Spectators will be searched on entry and security cameras have been installed to spot any trouble-makers. Unlike in England and Australia, alcohol is not a problem in strictly Muslim Pakistan, where it is illegal and against religious principles.

Outside the stadium municipal fire engines sprayed trees with water to give them a fresh look at the end of one of the driest summers in recent years.

Armed police patrolled the streets to prevent any recurrence of the clashes between rival Mohajir and Pashtun communities over the past year.

A curfew was imposed on the city and scores of activists arrested in late August after the



Imran Khan

latest outbreak of ethnic blood-letting spread from Karachi.

At least eight people were killed in Hyderabad and dozens wounded as activists attacked each other and set alight shops and vehicles.

The Mohajirs (refugees), Muslims who migrated from other parts of India at partition in 1947, have mounted a campaign against alleged discrimination in several southern cities.

They have a large community in Hyderabad and frequently come into conflict with the Pashtuns, migrants from north-western Pakistan.

Everest remains highest

ROME (AP) — Italian scientists have presented new findings that Mount Everest and K2 have both "grown" but the Everest remains the highest mountain in the world.

The report to a scientific convention challenged preliminary findings by an American expedition to the Himalayas that K2 was actually higher than Everest, long considered "the roof of the world."

Ardito Desio, who led the Italian research team, said in a television interview Wednesday that the measurements were made with the help of American satellites and were absolutely precise.

The scientists from Italy's national research council found that both mountains were above their previously stated heights, K2 by 5 metres (16.4 feet) and Everest by 24 metres (78.7 feet). This puts Everest at 8,872 metres (29,107 feet) and K2 at 8,616 metres (28,267 feet).

Soccer thugs apprehended

BIRMINGHAM, England (AP) — Police said Wednesday they had rounded up a notorious gang of soccer thugs who called themselves "the zulu warriors" and had been responsible for a three-year reign of violence at soccer grounds throughout England.

The West Midlands police announced they had arrested 37 men, aged between 18 and 40, and expected to charge them with offences including affray, wounding and criminal damage.

The arrests followed a police investigation codenamed "operation red card" and centred on the English second division club, Birmingham City.

Paul Leopold, West Midlands assistant chief constable in charge of operations, said the gang purported to be Birmingham City fans but were more interested in violence and mayhem than sport.

African soccer defeat sparks crisis in Egypt's Zamalek

By Munir Boweti
Reuter

CAIRO — A stunning defeat by Ghana's Kotoko soccer club in the African Champion's Cup plunged Zamalek of Egypt, the holders, into a crisis which has taken its toll on players, managers and officials.

Zamalek's British coach, Richard Parker, was dismissed after the 1-5 loss, his local assistants resigned and a new management took over.

Club chairman Hassan Amer and his deputy, Galal Ibrahim, also quit. Club officials are trying to persuade Amer to stay, but Ibrahim made clear he would not return.

Two players and club officials denied local press reports suggesting that they had deliberately lost the game to get rid of Parker. "We have seen a video tape of the match several times. We came to the conclusion there was no collaboration to lose," Essam Bahieg, the new manager, told Reuters.

So angry were Zamalek's fans that one man beat his wife for taunting him about the defeat, according to a Cairo newspaper. She suffered minor injuries.

The government deployed truck-loads of security forces around the club for several days for fear of riots. Zamalek had looked almost certain to reach the semi-finals of the African Champions' Cup after a 2-0 victory in the home leg. Sympathy went to National, Zamalek's city rivals, who lost 0-2 at Africa Sport of Ivory Coast in their away match in the same

round. But expectations for both teams, the glamour clubs of Egyptian soccer, were turned upside down when tested on the field on September 20.

Zamalek went down to Kotoko 1-5 in the away leg, the club's heaviest defeat in international competition. National, the Egyptian league champions, qualified for the semi-finals following a penalty shootout.

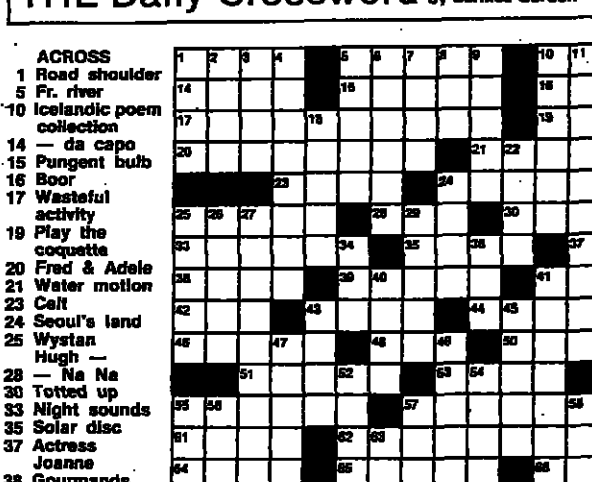
Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak later took the rare step of sending a senior official to Zamalek to urge the club to close ranks to overcome the crisis.

Commentators blamed differences among Zamalek officials and players. But they heaped most of the blame on Parker.

Bahieg said there were no differences among the players themselves but the poor performance against Kotoko was a spillover of conflicts between rival factions inside the club.

Asked to comment on the Kotoko match, he said he could not blame certain players. "The whole team is to blame... it was just one of those unlucky days — something which may happen to any team," he said.

THE Daily Crossword by Bernice Gordon



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'A beer crowd on a martini night'

By James Litke
The Associated Press

ROSEMONT, Illinois (AP) — This was one of those rare occasions when you didn't need a scorecard to figure out who the professional football players were — they were the ones out of costume.

In a scene that was by turns chaotic and comic, player representatives from each of the NFL's 28 teams shared a suburban Chicago hotel lobby Monday night with dozens of out-of-towners visiting the big city for a 4-H convention on farm safety.

In the end, it was difficult deciding who was having more fun.

The players got to fight their way through a crowded lobby, a

phalanx of TV crews, and likely each other in a late-night bid to devise a strategy that would bring the league's owners back to the bargaining table.

The 4-H crowd started slowly, with an instructional film. But they picked up speed with a masquerade ball and claimed the lobby by midnight, patrolling the halls as clowns or lions and the like while the players remained behind closed doors.

"We heard they were here and we figured we might see them, but not that close," said 12-year-old Leroy Thompson of Geismar, Louisiana.

"There was just me and another guy and 10 girls and we got in an elevator with (49ers quarterback) Joe Montana," he continued.

"And wouldn't you know it, they all got so dizzy, I thought they were going to faint," added Thompson. "That really would have been embarrassing."

Never mind that Joe Montana really didn't make the meetings (he doesn't belong to the union), when you've got this many celebrities rolling around, who's going to notice.

"Actually, this crowd was pretty well-behaved," said bartender Eileen Stanton, who was singularly unimpressed by the half-dozen Chicago Bears who filled a table.

"The regular 'Monday night football' crowd is usually much rowdier."

In deference to the strikers, perhaps, the large-screen television was moved to another part of the hotel. While the San Francisco 49ers struggled to a 41-21 win over the New York Giants, Ms. Stanton eyed a subdued crowd.

"Some nights, we get the wrestlers in here, the rock stars... whoever plays at the (nearby) 'horizon,'" she added. "Monday night is usually the martini-mixed drink crowd. This was mainly a beer night."

In New York NFL strike negotiations resumed after the union softened its stance on free agency, leading some players to predict regulars would be back on the field this weekend.

The talks, the first in 11 days,

involved only the chief negotiators — management's Jack Donlan and the union's Gene Upshaw. The site was undisclosed.

The two sides returned to the bargaining table following an eight-hour meeting in Chicago of the union's 28 player representatives.

The new talks also followed a weekend in which both sides seemed to lose — owners, because stadiums were filled to just 25 per cent capacity rather than the usual 90 per cent; players, because of nearly 90 defections and reports that many more, including entire teams, might cross picket lines this week.

"I think the pressures are beginning to build on both sides," commissioner Pete Rozelle said in Washington where he was testifying before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the NFL's TV package.

Owners, meanwhile, put more pressure on players by moving up the reporting deadline from Friday to Wednesday. That means a player who wants to get paid for this weekend's games must report to his team by Wednesday, two days earlier than last week.

Players said they hoped a quick settlement could be reached if they moved away from their demand for unrestricted free agency after four years, the issue that stymied the last round of talks.

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| 1. Mohammad Nimir Badawy | Alyal | Owner | Thameen | 54.5 |
| 2. Salim A. El Karem | Al Shavin | Owner | Basil | 54.5 |
| 3. Thamer Hazza El Hadeed | Bancon | Owner | A. Jabir | 54.5 |
| 4. Mamduh Mohammad Khalil | J. Bnayst | Owner | Yousef | 54.5 |
| 5. Salim A. El Karem | Jraiban | Owner | Rashad | 53 |
| 6. Mousa Salman Hamid | R. Mashakbi | Owner | Mwafak | 51.5 |
| 7. Saleem Khalil Khair | Ashwas | Owner | Darallah | 50 |
| 8. Saad El Din Rida Saad | Isar | Owner | A. Amarah | 50 |
| 9. Ahmad A. El Azeze | M. Mahir | Owner | Owner | 48.5 |
| 10. Mikhlid Dawesh Bakheet | S. Mikhlid | Owner | Mahmoud | 48.5 |
| 11. Dr. A. El Nasseem A. Wandy | N. Maaser | Owner | Owner | 48.5 |
| 12. Salman Hisham Nabulay | M. Salman | Owner | George | 48.5 |
| 13. Mohammad Khalil El Faiez | T. Khalid | Owner | Fawaz | 48.5 |
| 14. Hsain Mahmoud Kadih | A. Hadeh | Owner | Samy | 48.5 |
| 15. Naeef El Hadeed | Mashhour | Owner | Ahmad | 48.5 |

THIRD RACE 4.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|-------------------------------|------------|---------|------------|--------|
| 1. Farhan Faith Oudih | B. Baze | Owner | Yousef | 56 |
| 2. Nimir Mohammad Khalil | Shalkah | Owner | Yousef | 54.5 |
| 3. Shahr Farhan Rabayah | A. Naeif | Owner | Yousef | 54.5 |
| 4. Khalid Yousef Rwaideh | Alhady | Owner | Fawaz | 53 |
| 5. Mashhour F.A. Jnab | S. B. Arab | Owner | A. Jageeth | 53 |
| 6. Salman Khalil | Elkawa | Owner | Basil | 51.5 |
| 7. Aly El Masamih | M. Mikhlid | Owner | Mwafak | 50 |
| 8. Salim Mazy Adwan | S. B. Ghor | Owner | Owner | 50 |
| 9. Lorraine H. El Hadeed | Laly | Owner | Sulaim | 50 |
| 10. Mohammad Salman | Hamshary | Owner | Owner | 50 |
| 11. Majdy Dawesh Bakheet | A. Majdy | Owner | Mahmoud | 48.5 |
| 12. Khalid Mohammad | B. Hieban | Owner | Ahmad | 48.5 |
| 13. Farhan Faith Oudih | Nadwan | Owner | Owner | 48.5 |
| 14. Ala Mazin Abbady | B. El Hayr | Owner | Rashad | 48.5 |
| 15. Dr. A. El Hadeez A. Wandy | Z. Maaser | Owner | George | 50 |

FIFTH RACE 5.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1. Yousef Khalil El Marief | D. Omar | Owner | Yousef | 62 |
| 2. Faisal Anwar El Faiez | Hanof | Owner | Owner | 58.5 |
| 3. Faisal Anwar El Faiez | Jamrah | Owner | Owner | 54.5 |
| 4. Kamel Wasil Baharat | Shalay | Owner | Rashad | 58 |
| 5. Ibrahim Hraish | Waly | Owner | Adnan | 56 |

SECOND RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------|------------|--------|
| 1. Khalil Haddadin | El Hariry | Owner | Owner | 56 |
| 2. Khalil Haddadin | A. El Maha | Owner | A. Jabir | 53 |
| 3. A. Jabir and Bakheet | Wardih | Owner | Rashad | 54.5 |
| 4. A. Jabir and Bakheet | Rabba | Owner | A. Amarah | 53 |
| 5. Mashhour F.A. Jnab | country | Owner | A. Jageeth | 51.5 |
| 6. Mashhour F.A. Jnab | El Fahdh | Owner | Sulaim | 54.5 |
| 7. Samy Yacoub Madras | A. El Fawes | Owner | Ahmad | 53 |
| 8. Mamduh El Hadeed | Rchunih | Owner | Owner | 51.5 |
| 9. Ghalib Haddadin | Ikhias | Owner | George | 51.5 |
| 10. H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stable | Sarim | Owner | Abbas | 50 |
| 11. H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stable | Sabalan | Owner | Abbas | 50 |
| 12. H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stable | Walaah | Owner | Abbas | 48.5 |
| 13. Najla Wasil Baharat | Mohanna | Owner | Khairaldin | 50 |
| 14. Ghazy A. Jabir | Balsim | Owner | Owner | 48.5 |

FOURTH RACE 5.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------|------------|--------|
| 1. Nimir El Hmoud | Sahary | Mahmoud | Kasim | 53 |
| 2. Nimir El Hmoud | I. Rabadan | Mahmoud | Mahmoud | 50 |
| 3. Nimir El Hmoud | Lobah | Mahmoud | A. Jageeth | 48.5 |
| 4. Maysam Ibrahim Beharat | Agdal | Owner | Khairaldin | 50 |
| 5. Hary Ibrahim Baharat | Mashhour | Owner | Khairaldin | 50 |
| 6. Najla Wasil Baharat | M. Dina | Owner | Rashad | 48.5 |
| 7. Noal Aly Fareed El Saad | Saad Aly | Owner | Khairaldin | 50 |
| 8. Aly Fareed El Saad | Saad Aly | Owner | Khairaldin | 50 |
| 9. Sarah Aly Fareed El Saad | Dahman | Owner | Khairaldin | 50 |

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Performances: 3:30, 6:10, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema OPERA Tel: 675573

FAST FORWARD



Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema PLAZA Tel: 677420

ABOUT LAST NIGHT

Performances: 3:30, 6:10, 8:30, 10:30

Lebanese lira closes at 323 to dollar

BEIRUT (AP) — The Lebanese lira plunged to a record low against foreign currencies Wednesday as a worsening economic crisis tightened its grip on the civil war-plagued nation.

The lira, once the soundest currency in the Middle East, declined by 17 liras in one day

and closed at 323 to the U.S. dollar in the Beirut money market.

The lira rated 306 to the dollar Tuesday. The rapid slide was blamed on efforts by money speculators to absorb a 100 per cent wage increase announced by the government Monday.

The Voice of the Nation radio station blamed "blackmarketers feeding on the livelihood of the Lebanese people" for the sudden nosedive in the value of the lira.

The Lebanese lira, which rated 2.5 to the dollar before outbreak of the civil war in 1975, has been hard hit by 12 years of violence in a country that imports more than 85 per cent of its needs.

Moderate leaders blame the economic decline on the inability of authorities to collect taxes in the militia-ruled country, which strips the state treasury of its basic revenue.

Israel will import goods from China

TEL AVIV (AP) — China will begin importing goods to Israel for the first time, a trade ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

The spokesman, Amiram Fleischer, confirmed a report to that effect published in the daily Yediot Ahronot but refused to add more details, saying: "The subject is so delicate I cannot elaborate."

The newspaper reported that Trade Minister Ariel Sharon met recently with a visiting group of Chinese businessmen and agreed to their request to export to Israel "on a reciprocal basis."

Yediot wrote that Israel has already begun exporting and that some goods are shipped directly to China from the Red Sea port of Eilat.

The paper said Sharon refused to say what goods Israel and China were selling to each other. It reported that Israel also exports to China via Hong Kong. The exports to Hong Kong include large amounts of clothing, especially bathing suits.

China and Israel do not maintain diplomatic relations but have gradually stepped up their unofficial ties over the past few years.

Last week the two countries held their highest-level talks to date when Foreign Minister Shimon Peres met his Chinese counterpart, Mr. Wu Xueqian, at the United Nations in New York.

Following his talks with the Chinese foreign minister Peres said: "The meeting with the foreign minister of China... indicated a change and the Chinese saw it as such."

Iraq exempts foreign firms from taxes

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — Foreign companies engaged in development projects in Iraq will be exempted from all taxes and duties under a decision taken by the Revolution Command Council (RCC).

The decision, which will apply to contracts signed after the adoption of the measure, stipulates that the non-Iraqi employees working for these companies will also be exempted from income tax.

The move is part of a government plan to encourage foreign investment.

Survey shows bankers taking gloomier view of world credit

NEW YORK (AP) — Bankers are taking a gloomier view of the world debt situation than they were six months ago, according to a survey by an American business magazine.

In a survey of 109 nations, Institutional Investor found that the average country's credit rating in September had dropped considerably from a similar survey last March, and even more from a year ago.

Every six months, the monthly magazine asks about 100 international banks to rate the creditworthiness of the 109 nations on a scale 0 to 100. In the magazine's September issue, Japan ranked first with a score of 95.4, and North Korea 109th with 4.3.

The global average rating was 39.3, down 0.7 points from last March and down 1.2 points from September 1986.

Countries with higher ratings generally find it easier to borrow from the banks and are likely to get better terms on loans.

Since last March only two countries — the Philippines and East Germany — gained a full point or more, while the ratings of 34 countries declined by at least a point.

The biggest losers were Brazil, down 3.8 to 31.7, Australia, down 3.5 to 29.9, and Gabon, down 3.4 to 34.5.

Institutional Investor notes that every region of the world suffered a decline, because of "a common malaise among lenders."

Third World nations alone owe more than \$1 trillion (million-million) and the banks "are looking more carefully at what they're doing abroad," according to a banker quoted by the magazine.

The biggest regional loser was North America, which dropped

1.1 points to 89.2, "largely because the United States fell 1.6 points." The \$240 billion U.S. foreign debt is worrying bankers.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the credit ratings of Australia and New Zealand dropped sharply, to 72.9 and 65.5 respectively. One banker told the magazine "both benefited for a long time from the fallacious notion that English-speaking white countries were sure things in the debt-risk department, but suddenly we... saw that they were both on the way to becoming banana republics."

The Philippines gained 1.2 for a rating of 25.3. One banker cited its "solid record of monetary and fiscal management in the last half-year."

The second-largest decline since last March was in Africa, where the average country rating dropped 0.9 to 19.6. South Africa, "which had led every list of losers in recent surveys, registered only a 1.5 point drop this time."

South Africa now ranks fifth in creditworthiness in Africa, with 31.3. Algeria, number one, dropped 2.0 points to 4.8.

In Latin America, Brazil led the list of the world's losers with a decline of 3.8 points, "dragging down the entire region." Brazil's rating is 31.7. However, Latin America still slightly outranks Africa with an average 21.2 rating.

In Western Europe, Switzerland "took a puzzling drop" of 1.1 points, to 93.1, although bankers see nothing alarming about its financial situation. "Maybe some people are worried about the political or strategic side or its future as a financial centre," one banker said.

"Hungary's failure to address its deficits made it the largest

loser," with a 1.8 drop to 47.9. East Germany rose 1.2 points to 57.4 and is now up 9.9 points since March 1985. According to one West German banker, "the East Germans haven't really borrowed anything recently, so the perception is... they must be in good shape."

In the Middle East "the major oil producers have stabilised, but their poorer cousins keep on sinking," and the average regional rating dropped 0.7 points to 37.3.

Egypt, the biggest loser, was down 2.1 points to 23.5, due to "the loss of direct oil income and the effect of lower oil prices on worker remittances" from Egyptians in other oil-producing countries.

"Continuing political turmoil" took its toll again in Lebanon "and a nation that was once the most advanced in the Middle East now ranks 102nd out of 109 countries," at 8.2.

Jordan slips slightly

Jordan ranked 53 with a credit rating of 35.7, down 1.7 points from March.

Iran, USSR agree to form shipping line

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran said Tuesday it has reached an agreement in principle with the Soviet Union to set up a joint shipping line on the Caspian Sea.

Transport Minister Mohammad Saeedi-Kya said the ships would sail between the Iranian ports of Bandar Anzali and Nowshahr to Baku in the Soviet Union.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted him as saying two Iranian cargo ships would ply the route. It did not say when the line would begin to function.

Moscow and Tehran, after years of strained relations, have in recent months held economic cooperation talks in Tehran and Moscow. The shipping line was one of several projects mooted then.

In addition to the line, the Soviets are sending technicians to Iran to help complete a steel mill and a power station. The two nations also are discussing a possible rail link.

Relations between Tehran and Moscow worsened after the 1979 Islamic revolution, a crackdown on the pro-Soviet communist Tudeh Party and the Soviet invasion of neighbouring Afghanistan.

The improvement in ties began last year at a time when Iran was emerging from a post-revolution isolation, and apparently was partly prompted by a desire to find a counterweight to the United States.

Iran also has resumed sales of natural gas to its huge northern neighbour, and also stands to gain economically from the shipping and other proposed deals.

U.S. Congress bans all imports from Iran

WASHINGTON (R) — An embargo on imports from Iran, including oil, was approved by both houses of the U.S. Congress in a bid to put America's economic policy in line with its military posture in the Gulf.

The Senate and House of Representatives approved separate bills on Tuesday calling for a total embargo of Iranian goods. Conferees from the two houses must agree a single version of the bill, which could be sent to President Reagan this week.

The White House has said it is sympathetic to the embargo legislation but must study the bill's implications before announcing a position on it. U.S. officials have said it would be very difficult to enforce an embargo.

Both the House and Senate measures would bar all Iranian goods but would allow President Reagan to delay the embargo for up to 180 days if he felt it was in U.S. interests to do so.

U.S. imports of oil and other Iranian products, such as textiles and pistachio nuts, have averaged about \$600 million annually in recent years.

This year, however, the United States has already purchased about \$700 million in crude oil from Iran. The highest import level came in July, the month U.S. protection of Kuwaiti tankers from Iranian attack in the Gulf began. Iran is not ordinarily a top exporter of oil to the United States but in July was second only to Nigeria.

Some legislators and independent experts said a U.S. embargo on Iranian oil would have little impact on Iran because Tehran could sell its inexpensive oil elsewhere and the United States would have to purchase higher-priced petroleum, resulting in a minor rise in U.S. oil prices.

"It means something symbolically but I don't believe it is a solution to our problems," said House Speaker Jim Wright.

But other legislators, including Democrats who oppose the U.S. protection operation in the Gulf, said it was important to send Iran a message that it was not "business as usual" as long as Tehran refused to negotiate an end to its seven-year war with Iraq and caused hostilities in the waterway.

About 30 U.S. warships have been sent to the Gulf in the last few months to protect 11 Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag. Iran sees the U.S. military build-up and Washington's support for Kuwait, a backer of Iraq, as provocations.

The Senate is expected to consider a bill soon, possibly this week, to force President Reagan to invoke the 1973 war powers act, which could result in a pull-out of U.S. forces from the Gulf. The measure is expected to be defeated.

There is more Senate support to limit the U.S. protection operation to 90 days.

Wall Street drop drags down world share prices

LONDON (R) — Share prices around the world tumbled on Wednesday after Wall Street's record one-day drop the day before. The dollar also slid, while gold fell slightly.

Despite the stock market falls, dealers said most investors remained calm in the face of mounting concern that inflation and interest rates around the world are set to rise. These were the worrying factors that set off the 91.55-point fall in the Dow Jones industrial average on Tuesday to 2,548.63.

In one market, Hong Kong, investors decided an initial sell-off meant there were bargains to had. Their buying sent the Hang Seng index up nearly 27 points to 3,936.

In most markets, however, dealers shared the view of the Frankfurt broker who said: "There are few incentives for fresh activity."

The dollar fell more than one pfennig and one yen on Wednesday, to touch a morning low of 1,822.5 West German marks and 145.35 Japanese yen. The price of gold was 55 cents an ounce higher at the London morning fix on Wednesday at \$458.55.

In London, the 100-share Financial Times Stock Exchange index opened 20.8 points lower at 2,347.1. Tokyo's 225-share nikkei index closed 136.7 points lower at 25,952.27, and Sydney's all-ordinaries index dropped 29.7 points to 2,217.2.

In Paris, not even a slight drop in interest rates lifted the gloom. One dealer predicted: "We could see the bourse indicator drop by two per cent today."

Generally, dealers and investors expect interest rates around the world to rise as central bankers — especially in the United States — move to cool off overheating economies before big borrowing — free-spending consumers set off a new round of inflation.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| One Sterling | 1.6382/92 | U.S. dollars |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.3070/80 | Canadian dollar |
| | 1.8263/70 | West German marks |
| | 2.0550/60 | Dutch guilders |
| | 1.5245/55 | Swiss francs |
| | 37.91/94 | Belgian francs |
| | 6.0775/0800 | French francs |
| | 1317/1318 | Italian lira |
| | 145.60/70 | Japanese yen |
| | 6.4075/4125 | Swedish crowns |
| | 6.6725/75 | Norwegian crowns |
| | 7.0100/50 | Danish crowns |
| One ounce of gold | 458.60/459.10 | U.S. dollars |

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Ringer Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will have a very clear perception of how to arrange your affairs in a more beneficial order, especially those of a financial nature. Be sure not to overlook the details of any plans which are pending.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Depend on your common sense today. Try not to make mountains out of molehills, and find a way to get out of that rut you've been in.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Work on improving your appearance, as this may play an important role in your success today. Accept advice graciously.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Don't hesitate to make revisions in your business plans. Establish more harmony at home by helping your mate with chores.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): A close friend has a wonderfully suggestion for you. Don't be too headstrong and miss out on a great opportunity today.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Your daily work is more scrutiny by a superior, so be willing to make any changes which are suggested. Try to be more cooperative.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): A wealthy woman can give you good, and profitable ideas, even if your views differ. This is a good day to get into some favorite sports.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Family members can be quite helpful in handling business and financial affairs. If you have guests in, make

sure they are helpful ones.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Make time to answer questions from business associates. Talk over important contracts, giving special attention to the fine print.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Your daily activities can produce many benefits if you make a few simple changes. Co-workers can assist you with a new plan.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Be sure you can afford any recreation you might be planning. Don't let any important bills go unpaid. Tonight is fine for socializing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Try to give your mate advice in a more practical manner. Invite a few friends over for dinner, and will be very memorable indeed.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): An older friend can give you fine advice for your future. This evening has some surprises in store, and will be very memorable indeed.

If Your Child Is Born Today: He or she will have a fine understanding of what motivates people, and will be extremely adept at making investments. For this reason, a good business-oriented education would be a good idea, but don't neglect the humanities. A good, healthy...

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Ringer Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Use more care than usual in the handling of money. Revamp your budget and eliminate unnecessary expenses. You must economize now, as there may be a need for emergency funds in the near future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Be wary of making any stupid mistakes. Get advice from a financial expert, but double-check it before you rely on it.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Use tact when dealing in business today. A smile and some simple favors will go a long way. Improve your appearance if time permits.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Be cautious in making any investments today. Be sure that you do nothing which will irritate a good friend this evening.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): Be slow and deliberate in pursuing your business interests. Postpone a meeting with friends until you really have time.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Any problems which arise should be carefully thought over before you make any attempt to solve them. Be kind to anyone you meet today.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): If you're thinking about beginning a new recreation, first check into it carefully. Listen to the suggestions and opinions of others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Examine your business relationships and get advice from an expert before you make any changes. Be

sure to drive carefully.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You'll be dealing with a very stubborn associate today, so try to strike a compromise. Pay particular attention to public duties.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Make sure you get all the week's work completed today. You won't be in the mood Monday morning. Be very cautious when driving.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): A recreation you've planned may cost much more than you expect. Show your mate your devotion and improve the home atmosphere.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Don't become involved in any arguments at home, especially if money is concerned. Get more than one estimate for home repairs.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Be wary of making any oral or written mistakes which could be quite costly. Keep an eye on your purse or wallet if you travel today.

If Your Child Is Born Today: He or she will always have both feet planted firmly on the ground and will always maintain a practical attitude. Teach your progeny to study the ethical and moral sides of any ventures before getting into them. Try to set an open-minded example. Sports are a must here.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

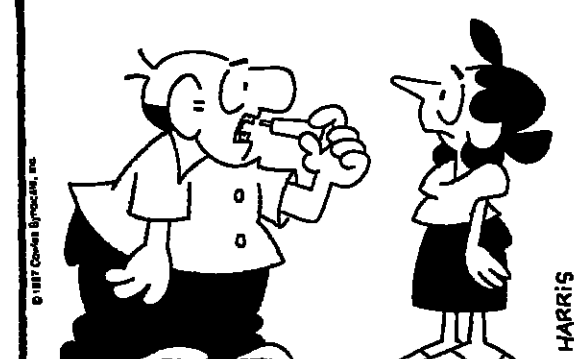


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

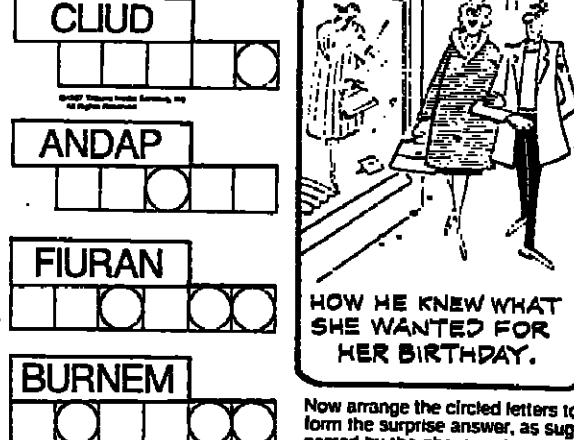
By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Herb Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HE "C-L-I-U-D-A-N-D-A-P-F-I-U-R-A-N-B-U-R-N-E-M" IT (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: BISON LOWLY ARCTIC GALLEY
Answer: When he says he'll meet you promptly, his promise may carry a lot of this—"WAIT."

Tamil rebels shatter ceasefire by killing 160 in new burst of violence

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil militants shattered Sri Lanka's fragile ethnic ceasefire on Wednesday in an explosion of violence that left nearly 160 civilians and soldiers dead, military and police sources said on Wednesday.

The hardline Liberation Tigers of Eelam (LTTE), angered by the suicide of 13 Tigers in government custody, attacked a train and a bus, and several Sinhalese villages in the north and east.

It was the worst violence to strike island since India and Sri Lanka concluded a peace pact on July 29 to end the four-year-old Tamil separatist revolt, and prompted a flight of panicked Sinhalese from the eastern province.

Since then at least 11,000 Indian soldiers and paramilitary police have been sent to Sri Lanka to enforce the agreement which brought a ceasefire between Tamil rebels and the Sinhalese-dominated government security forces.

The Indian government sent General Depinder Singh, its top

military commander in southern India, on Wednesday to the island to direct operations against the militants, the Sri Lankan Defence Ministry said.

The Tigers, the most powerful rebel group, repudiated the ceasefire following the suicide of the 13 Tigers who had been charged with smuggling arms. The rebel group also killed eight captured government soldiers in retaliation.

"The situation is extremely tragic, volatile and dangerous. Tension is building up, opposition leader Anura Bandaranaike told parliament.

Tigers set off a landmine under a military truck on Wednesday killing six soldiers, a military spokesman said. Ten soldiers were also wounded, three critically, in the blast at Vakkarai in northern

Polonnaruwa district. Tigers also attacked a train from Batticaloa to Colombo on Tuesday night, a military spokesman said.

He said the Tigers forced the passengers out of the train at Valachenai and set the carriages ablaze. They then separated the Sinhalese from the rest and shot 40 of them dead. Some of the bodies were thrown into the burning carriages.

Tiger gunmen ambushed a bus at Lahugala in eastern Ampara on Wednesday, killing 20 passengers, police said.

The militants stormed a farming village in Batticaloa district, killing 38 people while another rebel group attacked several Sinhalese homes in Batticaloa City killing 17 men, women and children, police said.

The Tigers raided two fishing villages in Trincomalee district and shot and hacked to death 27 men, women and children, and killed four people in an attack on a Sinhalese village near the northern city of Vavuniya on Wednesday morning, they said.

Rabuka names new governing council

SUVA (Agencies) — Coup leader Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka on Wednesday named a 19-member council of ministers to govern this newly-declared Pacific republic until it gets a new constitution.

Col. Rabuka, an ethnic Fijian, selected prominent anti-Indian extremists and only one Indian to sit on the council. He announced his choices in a broadcast over army-controlled Radio Fiji.

The council is to include conservative ethnic Fijian politicians from the alliance party, distinguished traditional chiefs and members of the extremist nationalist Taukei (landowners) movement.

Col. Rabuka, who declared Fiji a republic in a broadcast midnight Tuesday, appointed himself minister for home affairs, giving him control of the army, the police and the civil service.

In a broadcast on Radio Fiji the 39-year-old self-proclaimed head of state said Fiji now had the "magic" of autonomy.

Col. Rabuka opened the day with the midnight-decree establishing the republic — ending a 113-year bond with the British crown.

But the Fijian economy started the new era on a sick note with the central bank announcing a 15.25 per cent devaluation.

Col. Rabuka's declaration of a republic defied Governor-General Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau's insistence that he still holds executive power despite Col. Rabuka's revocation last week of Fiji's 1970 independence constitution.

Fiji's closest major allies, Australia and New Zealand, also bitterly criticised the move to a republic which deposed Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra said he refused to recognise.

China advises foreigners against visiting Tibet

PEKING (R) — China said foreigners should keep out of Tibet because of the risk of more unrest after last week's violence, but there were no immediate reports of unrest on Wednesday despite a forecast of separatist protests.

Tibetan separatists had predicted demonstrations to mark the 37th anniversary of China's armed entry to bring the Himalayan region under communist rule.

Peking lashed out at a U.S. Senate resolution protesting against alleged human rights abuses in Tibet, saying the move wantonly interfered in China's internal affairs.

"Such actions are only detrimental to the friendship between the Chinese and American people," the official New China News Agency quoted an official as saying.

In New Delhi, a spokesman for the Dalai Lama, Tibet's spiritual leader, said hundreds of Tibetans had been arrested following last Thursday's clash between police and separatists and many others had gone into hiding for fear of arrest.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman told a news briefing in Peking that "in view of the actual conditions in Lhasa, fore-

COLUMNS 7&8

Britons want to bring back hanging

LONDON (R) — Three out of four Britons want to bring back the death penalty, according to a National Opinion Poll (NOP) survey published on Tuesday. The poll, conducted for the Evening Standard tabloid ahead of a debate on law and order at the ruling Conservative Party conference in Blackpool, showed 73 per cent wanted to reinstate the noose, 23 were against and the rest were undecided. Capital punishment was abolished in 1965 and has been a topic of fierce debate in parliament, where a right-wing bid to reinstate it was defeated by 342 to 230 votes in April. The NOP poll of 1093 people showed 80 per cent wanted "terrorists" and murderers of children executed, just over half thought major drug dealers should be hanged and one in three favoured capital punishment for rapists.

Thatcher voted most important woman

NEW YORK (AP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is the most important woman in the world today, according to a survey of 250 newspaper editors around the world. The survey, published in the November issue of Ladies' Home Journal, was based on responses from publications on every continent, including Pravda in the Soviet Union, the Observer in London, China Daily and the Times of India. The other women, in order, are: Philippine President Corason Aquino; Mother Teresa; South African civil rights leader Winnie Mandela; Queen Elizabeth II; Katharine Graham, chairman of the board of the Washington Post; First Lady Nancy Reagan; Actress Melina Mercouri; Greek minister of culture and science; Soviet First Lady Raisa Gorbachev and Simone Weil, first president of the European Parliament.

Average speed in Italian cities is 5 kph

MILAN (AP) — The automobile industry may be zooming along in Italy, but in many Italian cities, cars are crawling slower than the horse-drawn carriages of yesteryear. A major conference about vehicular traffic held here this week revealed that the average rush hour speed in the usually jammed historical centres of Italian cities hovers between four and five kilometres per hour. The average speed of both private and public transportation at rush hour rises to 12 kph on the outskirts of town, according to those attending the conference. In Italy, cities must deal with four rush hours a day — two at either end of the work day, and two at the beginning and end of the lunch hour. Piero Stucchi Prinetti, president of the Italian Automobile Club, reported that insufficient parking areas are responsible for chaotic downtown traffic. In Milan, at least 200,000 cars a day are parked in forbidden areas. Similar problems exist in Rome and Naples.

Sultan of Brunei buys Beverly Hills hotel

LOS ANGELES (R) — A company controlled by the Sultan of Brunei bought the Beverly Hills hotel on Tuesday from a partnership headed by oil tycoon Marvin Davis for more than \$200 million, hotel management sources said. A two-paragraph statement announcing the sale did not disclose the purchase price or the names of the principals. It said the 260-room luxury hotel was sold to Sajabtera Inc by Miller Klutznick/Davis/Gray Hotel Co. The companies are controlled respectively by the Sultan of Brunei, who is one of the world's wealthiest men, and Davis, according to management sources at the hotel, which is also known as the Pink Palace for its distinctive colour and celebrity clientele. The hotel sources declined to be identified. Davis, a Denver-based investor who sold twentieth century fox film corp to Rupert Murdoch in 1986, bought the hotel from the family of Ivan Boskey and others for about \$135 million last December. The sale followed Boskey's \$100-million settlement of insider-trading charges brought by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Aquino faces up to new coup threat

MANILA (Agencies) — President Corazon Aquino on Wednesday took action to thwart a new coup plot — codenamed Rambo — by ordering the closure of three Manila radio stations and boosting defences around the presidential palace.

"The government has a perfect right to defend itself from its enemies," Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno said, adding the government would take other steps to stop a propaganda war by rebel officers plotting to overthrow Mrs. Aquino.

Mrs. Aquino showed no sign of regret. "That is within the law," she said of the order to close the three radio stations.

Armed Forces chief General Fidel Ramos told an emergency cabinet meeting a coalition of anti-Aquino groups, which included renegade troops and former allies of ousted leader Ferdinand Marcos, would attempt to grab power within a month.

Gen. Ramos suggested loyal troops may not be strong enough to stop the rebellion which has the backing of the political opposition in the country.

Brigadier-General Alexander Aguirre, commander of troops guarding metropolitan Manila, said the new coup attempt was codenamed Rambo — remove Mrs. Aquino from Malacanang by October.

Malacanang, the Spanish colonial presidential palace in central Manila, has been surrounded by Gen. Aguirre's troops backed by tanks and armoured vehicles.

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Pakistan hands over seized airmen to Soviet ambassador

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan handed over six Soviet airmen to the Soviet embassy on Tuesday night after they were captured with their helicopters in Pakistani territory.

A Foreign Ministry official showed the two pilots, two copilots and two mechanics reporters and said Islamabad believed the Soviets' account that they crossed the border by mistake.

The official refused to comment on allegations that the Soviets had spying on Pakistani forces who have fought with Indian troops in the disputed Kashmir province.

All six, identified as members of the 217th KGB Army Guards Brigade, appeared at the Foreign Ministry clad in olive drab fatigues, stripped of insignia. They looked dirty and tired.

The six were turned over to Soviet Ambassador Abdul Rahman Vazirov, who accompanied them in a motorcade to the closed Moscow embassy compound.

The Soviet embassy in Islamabad first denied any knowledge of the helicopter episode, then refused comment after the news conference Tuesday night.

The Pakistani spokesman said two Soviet Mi-24 gunships flew Saturday from Alma Ata, capital of the Kazakhstan Soviet Republic, headed south across Afghanistan's narrow Wakhan corridor and landed about 48 kilometres inside Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province.

With insufficient fuel to return to the air, the airmen wrecked their craft and burned their identity papers, the spokesman said.

The spokesman said several Soviet aircraft flew over the site on Saturday and Sunday, "flouting the universally accepted norms of international law."

One of the pilots, identified by the Pakistanis as Major Yevgeny Nikolai, said they lost direction in some clouds and landed in Pakistan by mistake.

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Kaunda warns of possible armed revolt in S. Africa

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Revolution will erupt in South Africa unless the international community imposes strong sanctions to pressure Pretoria into ending apartheid, the chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) warned Tuesday.

"When it explodes it will make the French revolution look like a Sunday morning picnic," Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda told a news conference after speaking to the U.N. General Assembly.

He said the chances of a political solution would dim without mandatory sanctions.

"In the absence of such sanctions, only revolutionary violence by the oppressed majority of South Africa will dismantle apartheid," he said.

Mr. Kaunda, chairman of both the OAU and the frontline states, the black-ruled nations bordering white-ruled South Africa, blamed Pretoria for southern Africa's economic problems.

"The recovery and development efforts in the southern African region have been and continue to be frustrated by the racist regime of South Africa and its continued policies of aggression and political and economic destabilisation," he told the world body.

While Mr. Kaunda blamed South Africa for regional woes, he attributed the overall economic problems of the continent to the international community's failure to support a special U.N. programme for Africa's economic recovery.

"The overall response of the international community has fallen short," he said.

Mr. Kaunda's complaints about lukewarm international support for the economic recovery programme, the product of a special U.N. session in 1986, were echoed in U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's annual report to the world body.

"The international community has been less than forthcoming with an intensified financial resources flow," Mr. Perez de Cuellar said.

The plan called for increased foreign aid to Africa on a voluntary basis.

Suspicion shifts to injured uncle of slain teenager in multiple murder case

MARSHFIELD, Missouri (AP) — Police investigating the killings of seven members of a rural family turned their suspicion from a slain boy to his wounded uncle after learning that the victim was left-handed while the murder weapon was found in his right hand, officials said Tuesday.

A Missouri highway patrol investigator said the uncle, James E. Schnick, admitted during a two-hour interrogation Monday that he was responsible for the shootings on the morning of Sept. 25.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's a confession," Sergeant Tom Martin said. "He told us he did it."

Schnick, 36, was taken to court Tuesday on charges that he murdered his wife and six other relatives.

Schnick shook while he stood on crutches before Webster County Sheriff Eugene Fraker at a news conference. "At the time we thought they were life-threatening," Fraker said.

Fraker said an abdominal wound was superficial, but a leg wound caused swelling that resulted in Schnick being shoeless and on crutches in court.

Webster County prosecutor Don Cheever said at the news conference that it was possible Schnick's wounds were self-inflicted.

Cheever and Fraker would not give details on the events surrounding the shootings. They said they had solid information on a motive but would not discuss it.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkensson

WINGED WORDS

By Sidney L. Robbins

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